

**MED. LIBRARY**

S. A. & S., Ltd.—285—19/7/1926. T.

C.P. <sup>113</sup>  
1926-1927.

1926.



**HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.**

---

**TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT ON THE**

**PUBLIC HEALTH**

**OF**

**HERTFORDSHIRE**

**BEING THAT FOR THE YEAR**

**1925**

**BY**

**H. HYSLOP THOMSON**

**M.D., D.P.H.**

**County Medical Officer of Health.**

## CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Introductory Letter ... ..	3
Duties of County Medical Officers ... ..	4
Statistical Summary ... ..	5
Birth-rate ... ..	6
Death-rate ... ..	8
Infant Mortality... ..	8
Diarrhœa ... ..	13
Cancer ... ..	14
Tuberculosis ... ..	15
Venereal Diseases ... ..	21
Blind Persons ... ..	22
Mental Defects ... ..	24
Epidemic Diseases ... ..	26
Isolation Hospitals ... ..	36
Bacteriological Examination ... ..	37
Disinfection ... ..	37
Maternity and Child Welfare ... ..	38
Health Visitors, Nurses, and Midwives ... ..	48
Report of Inspector of Midwives and County Health Visitor ... ..	49
Water Supply ... ..	54
Rivers Pollution ... ..	54
Disposal of House Refuse ... ..	55
Housing and Town Planning ... ..	56
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops ... ..	58
Sale of Foods and Drugs Acts ... ..	59
Summary and Conclusions ... ..	61
Chief Statistics of Urban and Rural Districts ... ..	<i>facing</i> 78

the Public Health and Housing Committee.



The statistics for the year show that there has been a slight fall in the birth-rate and in the general death-rate.

There is a distinct fall in the infant mortality and a slight rise in the death-rate from pulmonary tuberculosis. The death-rate from malignant disease and the epidemic death-rate remain unchanged. On the other hand, there is a slight rise in the diarrhoea death-rate.

From the figures submitted it will be seen that the health of the County during 1925 has, on the whole, been good, and has reached a somewhat higher level than that attained in 1924.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. HYSLOP THOMSON.

County Medical Officer of Health.

HERTFORD.

June, 1926.



## DUTIES OF COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH.

Directly, the County Medical Officer is responsible to you for the administration of the following measures:—

- (1) "The Midwives Acts, 1902 and 1918."
- (2) "The Notification of Births Acts, 1907 and 1915."
- (3) As School Medical Officer, "The Education (Administrative Provisions) Act, 1907."
- (4) "The Mental Deficiency Act, 1913."
- (5) Certain measures under "The Public Health (Prevention and Treatment) of Diseases Act, 1913."
- (6) "The Public Health (Venereal Diseases) Regulations, 1916."
- (7) "The Maternity and Child Welfare Act, 1918."
- (8) "The Blind Persons Act, 1920."
- (9) "The Public Health (Tuberculosis) Act, 1921."

---

### *Members of the Public Health and Housing Committee.*

Chairman: Fern, H. E.

Aronson, A.	Goulding, A.
Ball, C. F.	*Graveson, W.
Ball, G.	Grimwood, T. R.
*Barnard, E. B., O.B.E.	Halsey, C. H.
*Blount, Miss M. B.	Halsey, The Rt. Hon. Sir Frederick, Bart.
Bowlby, A. S.	Harris, L. T.
Bowman, E.	Haslam, R. H.
Bradford, Miss E. E. R.	Holland Hibbert, The Hon. A. H.
Bromet, A.	Loyd, E. H.
Carruthers, E.	Rutherford, D. C.
Cull, J.	Seaton, A. E.
Curtis, H. E.	Smith, Rev. Roland
*Daltry, B. H. R.	Vialou, A. B.
*Fern, H. E.	Wanklyn, J. A.
Flack, A.	*West L.
Ford, Amos	Wiggs, A. W.
Fordham, Mrs. P.	Woodhouse, R. P.
Franklin, E. J.	

Those marked \* are members of the Sub-Committee as to County Medical Officer of Health's Reports.

# THE HEALTH OF THE COUNTY, 1925.

## STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

(For each District see Table at end of Report.)

TABLE I.	URBAN.			RURAL.			COUNTY.		
	1925.	1924.	10 years †	1925.	1924.	10 years †	1925.	1924.	10 years †
	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>d</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>f</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>i</i>
I. Population	238,000	236,595	212,118	108,600	107,605	109,049	346,600	344,200	331,857
II. Birth-rate ....	15·8	16·0	18·0	15·7	15·7	18·2	15·8	15·9	18·1
III. Death-rate	10·5	10·5	11·6	10·1	10·5	11·6	10·4	10·5	11·6
IV. Infant Mor- tality	48	53	67	45	46	58	47	51	64
V. Epidemic Death-rate	·2	·26	—	·07	·10	—	·17	·17	—
VI. Diarrhœa Death-rate *	·07	·05	—	·03	·05	—	·06	·05	—
VII. Phthisis Death-rate	·7	·6	·8	·5	·5	·7	·6	·6	·7
VIII. Cancer Death-rate	1·5	1·4	1·2	1·4	1·4	1·2	1·4	1·4	1·2

† 1911-1920.

\* Per 1,000 population.

The above figures give a summary of the vital statistics for the County during 1925. The estimate of the population, as given by the Registrar-General, is 346,600, compared with 344,200 for 1924. There is a slight fall in the death-rate in the County, which for 1925 was 10·4, compared with 10·5 in 1924. There is a slight fall in the birth-rate, which for the past year was 15·8, compared with 15·9 for 1924.

There is a distinct fall in the infant mortality, which was 47 compared with 51 for 1924. This is the second lowest infant death-rate which has been attained, the previous best being 42 in 1924. There is a slight rise in the death-rate from pulmonary tuberculosis, namely 0·69, compared with 0·61 for 1924. There is also a slight increase in the death-rate from non-pulmonary tuberculosis, which was 0·14, compared with 0·13 for the previous year. The death-rate from malignant disease has remained unchanged, namely 1·4. The epidemic death-rate is also the same as last year, namely 0·17, and the diarrhœa death-rate shows a slight increase, ·06 compared with ·05.

## POPULATION AND ACREAGE.

(For each District see fly-leaf at end of Report.)

TABLE 2.			Acreage (land and water).	POPULATION.			
				Census 1901.	Census 1911.	Census 1921.	Estimate 1925.
Urban Districts	...		51,632	155,150	194,263	229,059	238,000
Rural Districts	...		352,900	103,273	117,058	104,136	108,600
County	...	...	404,523	258,423	311,321	333,195	346,600
England & Wales	...		37,337,630	35,527,843	36,070,492	37,885,242	38,746,000

The 1921 census population for the County was 332,220, and the population estimated by the Registrar-General for 1925 is 346,600, an increase of 2,400, compared with 6,400 for the previous year, the increase for the urban districts being 1,405 and for the rural districts as 995.

## BIRTH-RATE.

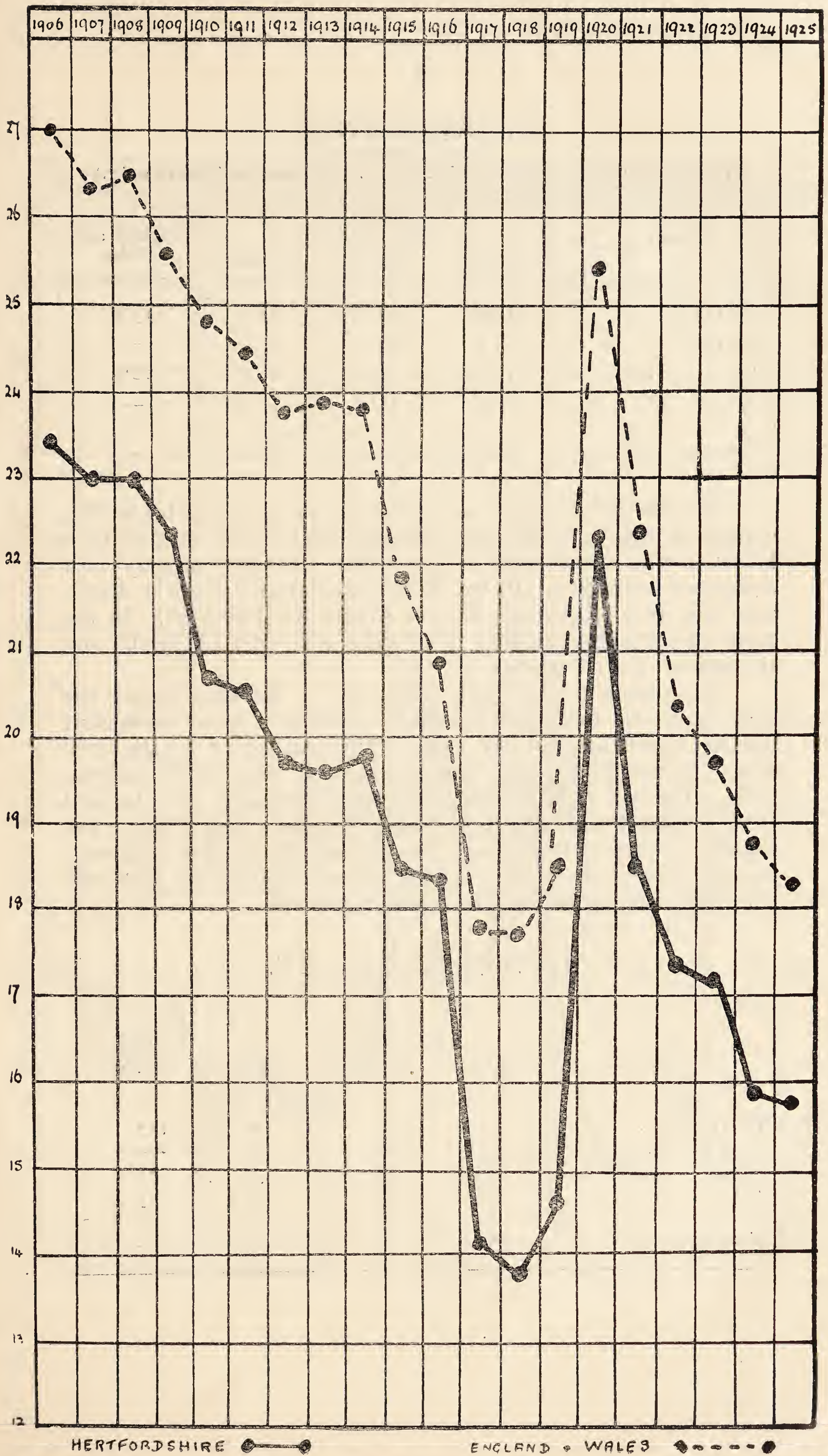
(For each District see fly-leaf at end of Report. For number of births, legitimate and illegitimate, in each district, see Table 6.)

TABLE 3.			Hertfordshire.			England and Wales.
			Urban.	Rural.	County.	
1901-10	...	...	23·6	22·6	22·9	27·2
1911-20	...	...	18·0	18·2	18·1	—
1924	...	...	16·0	15·77	15·9	18·8
1925	...	...	15·8	15·7	15·8	—
Number, 1925	...	...	3,771	1,710	5,481	—

The birth-rate for 1925 shows a slight fall from 15·9 to 15·8, the rate for the urban districts being 15·8 and for the rural 15·7. The highest birth-rate in the urban districts was 19·7 (Sawbridgeworth) and the lowest 10·0 (Harpenden). In the rural districts the highest birth-rate was 26·9 (Welwyn) and the lowest 10·2 (Barnet). The fall in the birth-rate during the past two decades is shown in the accompanying chart.



# BIRTH - RATE 1906-1925.





## DEATH-RATE.

(For each District see fly-leaf at end of Report. For causes see Tables 6 and 7.)

TABLE 4.	Hertfordshire.			England and Wales.
	Urban.	Rural.	County.	
1901-10 ... ..	11·8	12·0	11·7	15·4
1911-20 ... ..	11·6	11·6	11·6	—
1924 ... ..	10·5	10·5	10·5	12·2
1925 ... ..	10·5	10·1	10·4	—
Number, 1925 ...	2,522	1,104	3,626	—

The death-rate shows a slight decrease for 1925, being 10·4 compared with 10·5 for the previous year. The death-rate is lower in the rural than in the urban districts, namely 10·1 compared with 10·5. In the urban districts the highest death-rate was 16·2 (Royston) and the lowest 8·0 (Bushey). In the rural districts the highest death-rate was 15·7 (Ashwell) and the lowest 7·2 (Watford).

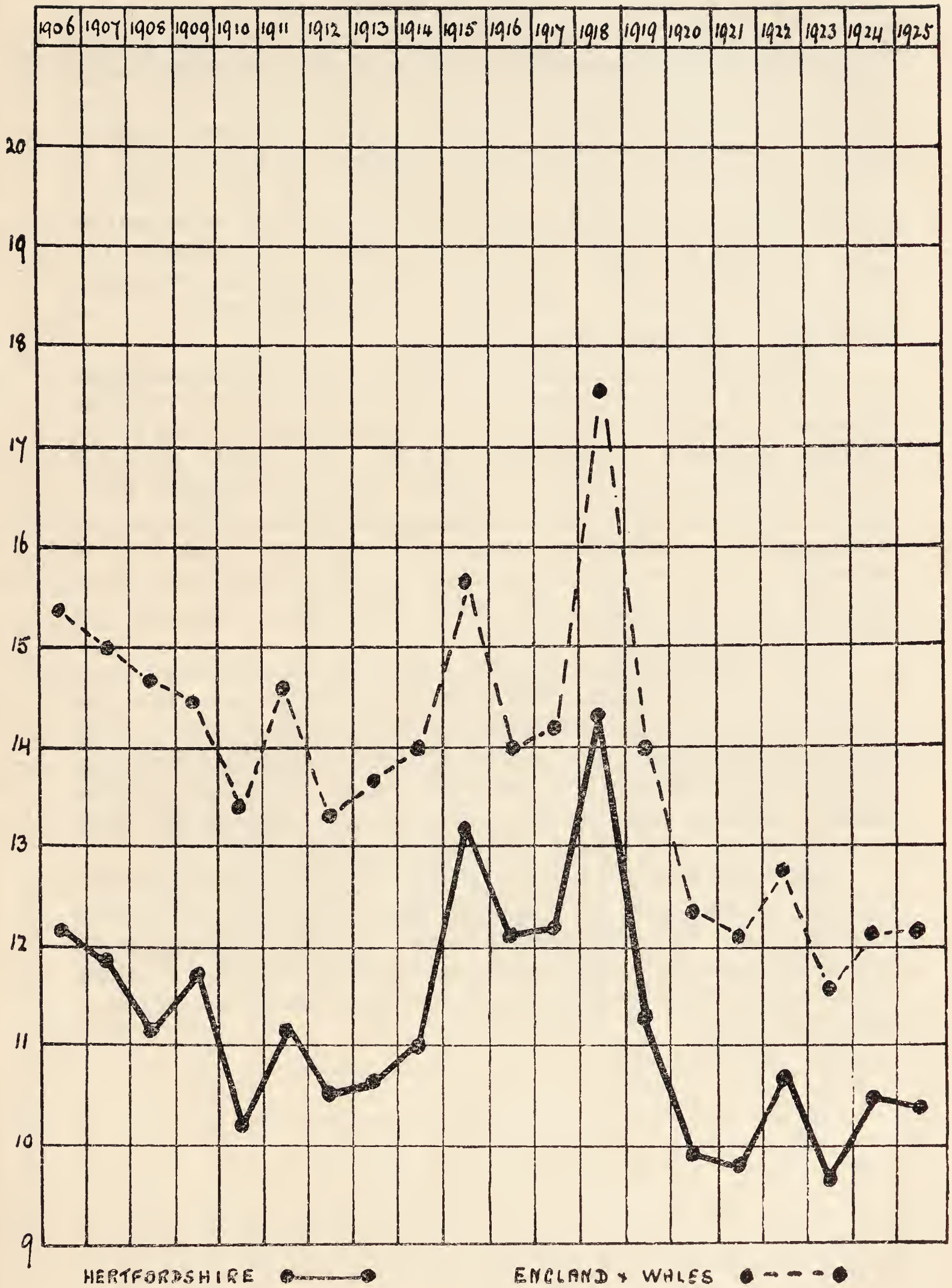
One reason for the high death-rate in Royston during the year is to be found in the high death-rate from malignant disease, which was 4·0 per 1,000. The number of deaths from heart disease in Royston during the year was also relatively high. The death-rate from malignant disease in the Ashwell Rural District was also high, being 3·1 per 1,000. While the number of deaths from heart disease and other defined diseases showed an increase. The fall in death-rate during the past two decades is shown in the accompanying chart.

## INFANT MORTALITY.

TABLE 5.	Hertfordshire.			England and Wales.
	Urban.	Rural.	County.	
1901-10 ... ..	90	83	88	127
1911-20 ... ..	67	58	64	—
1924 ... ..	53	46	51	75
1925 ... ..	48	45	47	75
Number, 1925 ...	181	77	258	—



# DEATH - RATE, 1906 - 1925



The infant mortality, which is the number of deaths under twelve months per 1,000 births, shows a decrease from 51 to 47, the actual number of deaths being 258, compared with 281 for 1924. The infant mortality was lower in the rural than in the urban districts, namely 45 compared with 48. In the urban districts the highest infant mortality was 69 (Barnet) and the lowest 17 (Tring). In the rural districts the highest was 89 (Welwyn) and the lowest 16 (Hertford). The chief causes of death under one year were congenital debility and malformation 126 compared with 158 for 1924, diarrhoea 18, the same as last year, whooping cough 14 compared with 9 last year, bronchitis 21 compared with 13, pneumonia 19 compared with 26, and influenza 2 compared with 5 last year.

Information regarding the deaths from debility and premature birth amongst infants during the first ten days of life in the cases attended by midwives is contained in the report of the County Inspector of Midwives. In the 2,699 births attended by the midwives there were 15 deaths during the first 10 days. Of the babies visited before reaching the age of 12 months, 66 died, giving an infantile mortality of 17·8 per 1,000. It is interesting to note that 68 per cent. of the infants were breast fed and 22·2 per cent. were partly breast fed; only 9·6 per cent. being bottle fed.

It is satisfactory to note that the number of deaths from congenital debility and malformation during the year has considerably decreased. This in part at least must be attributed to the development in ante-natal care and treatment which has taken place during the last two years, and to the efficient work of the midwives and nurses in the County. During the past year the nurses have paid 12,343 ante-natal visits.

There has been a rise in the death-rate amongst illegitimate children, which was 92·1 during 1925 compared with 63·5 during 1924. The comparative infant mortality for legitimate and illegitimate infants is given below. The fall in the infant mortality during the past two decades is shown in the accompanying chart.



# INFANT - MORTALITY. 1906 - 1925

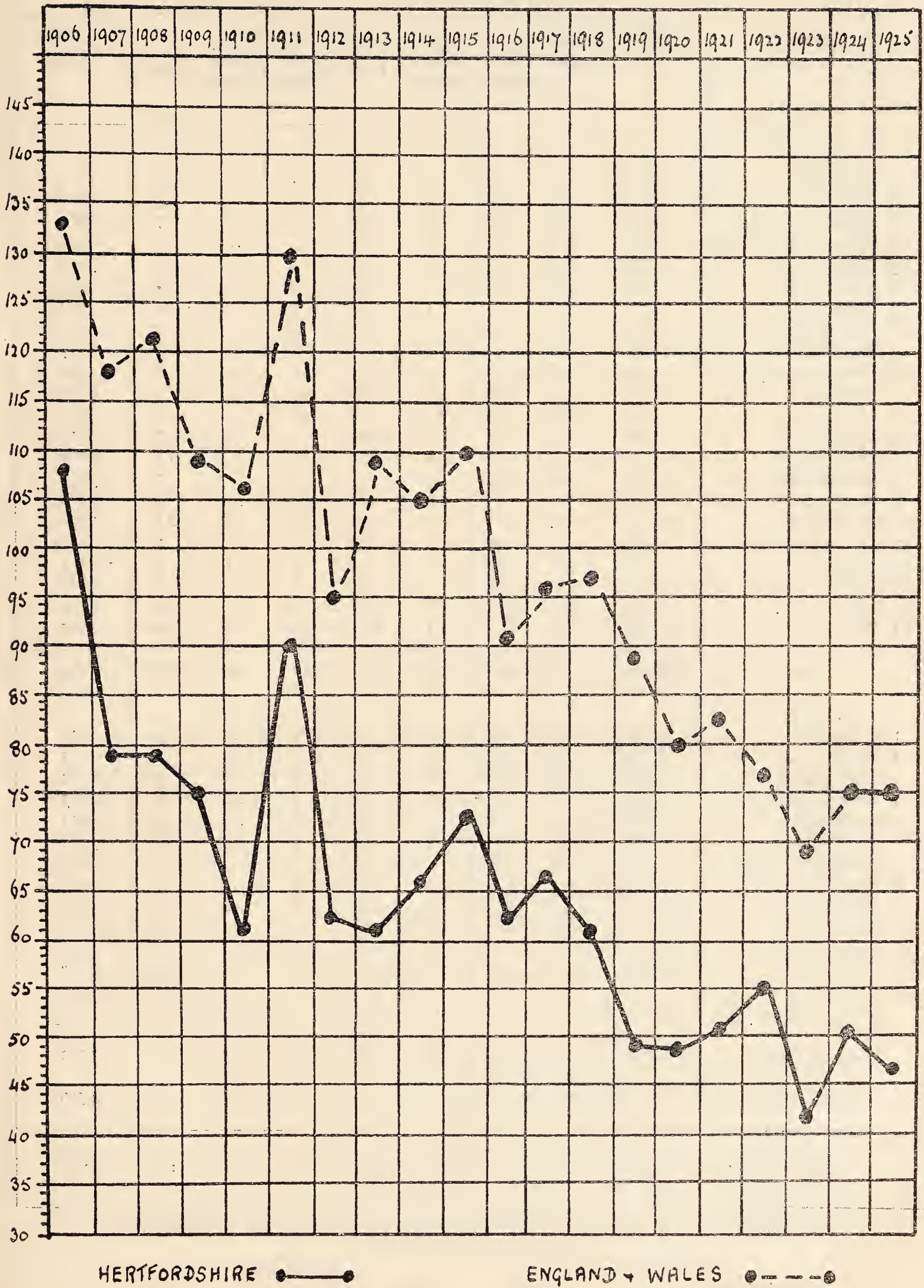


TABLE 6.  
BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND INFANT DEATHS IN 1925.

Districts.	Popula- tion.	Deaths at all ages.	Births.			Number of infant deaths in first year.			Rates per 1,000 births.
			Legi- timate.	Illegi- timate.	Total.	Legi- timate.	Illegi- timate.	Total.	
<i>Urban.</i>									
1 Baldock ... ..	2,718	30	46	1	47	1	...	1	21·2
2 Barnet ... ..	12,150	162	185	4	189	10	3	13	68·7
3 Berkhamstead ...	7,460	99	101	5	106	6	1	7	66·0
4 Bishop's Stortford	8,728	112	102	8	110	7	...	7	63·6
5 Bushey ... ..	8,469	68	95	2	97	3	...	3	30·9
6 Cheshunt... ..	14,260	128	224	8	232	9	1	10	43·1
7 Chorleywood ...	2,483	26	25	1	26	1	...	1	38·4
8 East Barnet Valley	14,290	126	207	10	217	9	...	9	41·4
9 Harpenden ... ..	6,657	68	63	4	67	2	1	3	44·7
10 Hemel Hempstead	14,090	125	233	7	240	6	...	6	25·0
11 Hertford ... ..	10,990	141	164	9	173	11	..	11	63·5
12 Hitchin ... ..	13,380	140	211	14	225	12	...	12	53·3
13 Hoddesdon ... ..	5,549	63	82	8	90	1	2	3	33·3
14 Letchworth ... ..	11,750	102	213	4	217	11	...	11	50·6
15 Rickmansworth ...	8,512	88	139	3	142	5	...	5	35·2
16 Royston ... ..	3,745	61	45	2	47	3	...	3	63·8
17 St. Albans ... ..	25,980	313	379	17	396	20	3	23	58·0
18 Sawbridgeworth...	2,380	25	46	1	47	1	...	1	21·2
19 Stevenage ... ..	5,100	55	88	2	90	4	1	5	55·5
20 Tring ... ..	4,285	42	58	1	59	1	...	1	16·9
21 Ware ... ..	6,034	64	99	8	107	6	...	6	56·0
22 Watford ... ..	48,990	484	814	33	847	36	4	40	47·2
Total Urban	238,000	2522	3,619	152	3,771	165	16	181	47·9
<i>Rural.</i>									
1 Ashwell ... ..	3,545	56	39	7	46	3	...	3	65·2
2 Barnet ... ..	4,780	47	85	4	89	3	...	3	33·7
3 Berkhamstead ...	4,764	52	61	2	63	3	1	4	63·4
4 Buntingford ... ..	4,934	61	73	3	76	2	...	2	26·3
5 Hadham ... ..	5,352	74	80	3	83	5	...	5	60·2
6 Hatfield ... ..	8,726	92	141	5	146	5	...	5	34·2
7 Hemel Hempstead	7,341	79	126	4	130	6	...	6	46·1
8 Hertford ... ..	7,255	92	121	3	124	2	...	2	16·1
9 Hitchin ... ..	13,560	134	232	4	236	8	...	8	33·8
10 St. Albans ... ..	15,830	124	221	14	235	11	...	11	46·8
11 Ware ... ..	11,410	120	174	6	180	5	1	6	33·3
12 Watford ... ..	16,500	120	174	4	178	11	...	11	61·7
13 Welwyn ... ..	4,603	53	118	6	124	9	2	11	88·7
Total Rural ...	108,600	1,104	1,645	65	1,710	73	4	77	45·0
„ Urban...	238,000	2,522	3,619	152	3,771	165	16	181	47·9
Total County	346,600	3,626	5,264	217	5,481	238	20	258	47·0

The Death-rate of Legitimate and Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate and Illegitimate Births is :

<i>Legitimate.</i>			<i>Illegitimate.</i>		
Urban Districts ...	42·8		Urban Districts ...	105·2	
Rural „ ...	44·3		Rural „ ...	61·5	
County ...	44·1		County ...	92·1	



*DIARRHŒA.*DEATH-RATES OF CHILDREN UNDER 2 YEARS  
PER 1,000 BIRTHS.

(For each District see fly-leaf at end of Report.)

TABLE 7.			Hertfordshire.			England and Wales.
			Urban.	Rural.	County.	
1918	...	...	5·7	—	3·8	9·5
1919	...	...	2·7	2·6	2·7	9·5
1920	...	...	3·3	4·0	3·5	8·3
1921	...	...	7·5	9·4	8·1	15·5
1922	...	..	3·4	1·1	2·7	5·5
1923	...	...	2·7	2·1	2·5	6·8
1924	...	...	3·4	3·5	3·4	6·3
1925	...	...	4·7	7·3	5·8	—
Number, 1924	...		18	4	22	—

The death-rate from diarrhœa of children under two years of age per 1,000 births has increased during the year, the rate being 5·8 compared with 3·4 for 1924. The death-rate from this cause was higher in the urban than in the rural districts, namely 4·7 compared with 2·3. The highest death-rate in the urban districts was 23·0 (East Barnet Valley) and in the rural districts 8·0 (Welwyn). In 13 urban districts and 9 rural districts no deaths from diarrhœa in children under two years occurred. From reference to the above table it will be seen that the highest diarrhœa mortality during the last seven years occurred in 1921, in which year there was a hot dry summer.

For the prevention of epidemic diarrhœa in infants and young children efforts must be continued in the following directions:—(1) The encouragement of the breast-feeding of infants, (2) the provision of a clean milk supply, (3) the attaining of a satisfactory standard of domiciliary cleanliness, (4) the abolition of refuse and flies, and (5) the protection of

all milk in the home from contamination by dust and flies. The main precautions is cleanliness in regard to food utensils and food.

### *CANCER OR MALIGNANT DISEASE.*

(Including carcinoma and rodent ulcer. For each District see fly-leaf at end of Report.)

TABLE 8.	Hertfordshire.			England and Wales.
	Urban.	Rural.	County.	
1901-10 ... ..	0·9	0·9	0·9	(1906-10) 0·9
1911-20 ... ..	1·2	1·2	1·2	—
1924 ... ..	1·4	1·4	1·4	1·2
1925 ... ..	1·5	1·4	1·4	—
Number, 1925 ...	361	158	519	—

The death-rate from malignant disease is the same as last year, namely 1·4, the number of deaths being 519 compared with 500. The death-rate is slightly higher for the urban districts 1·5 compared with 1·4. The highest death-rates from malignant disease in the urban districts were 4·0 (Royston) and 2·5 (Berkhamstead) and the lowest 0·5 (Bushey). In the rural districts the highest death-rates were 3·1 (Ashwell) and 2·2 (Hadham), and the lowest was 0·9 (Ware).

Of the total number of 519 deaths from malignant disease during the year 243 were males and 276 were females. The number of deaths from malignant disease over the age of 65 was 271 or 52·5 per cent. The number of deaths from this cause above the age of 75 was 123 or 23·7 per cent. From these figures it will be seen that the increased death-rate from malignant disease which has been a feature of recent years, is partly due to increased duration of life; the risk of death from malignant disease increases pro rata with age, dependent upon loss of tissue tone and the existence of degenerative changes.



The cause of malignant disease is not yet definitely known, but recent investigations point to the possibility of a filterable virus ; conditions of chronic irritation are liable to pave the way for its development. Measures to avoid such sources of irritation with early diagnosis and immediate treatment are therefore essential in any efforts to prevent or control the disease.

### *TUBERCULOSIS.*

#### CRUDE DEATH-RATES FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

(For each District see fly-leaf at end of Report.)

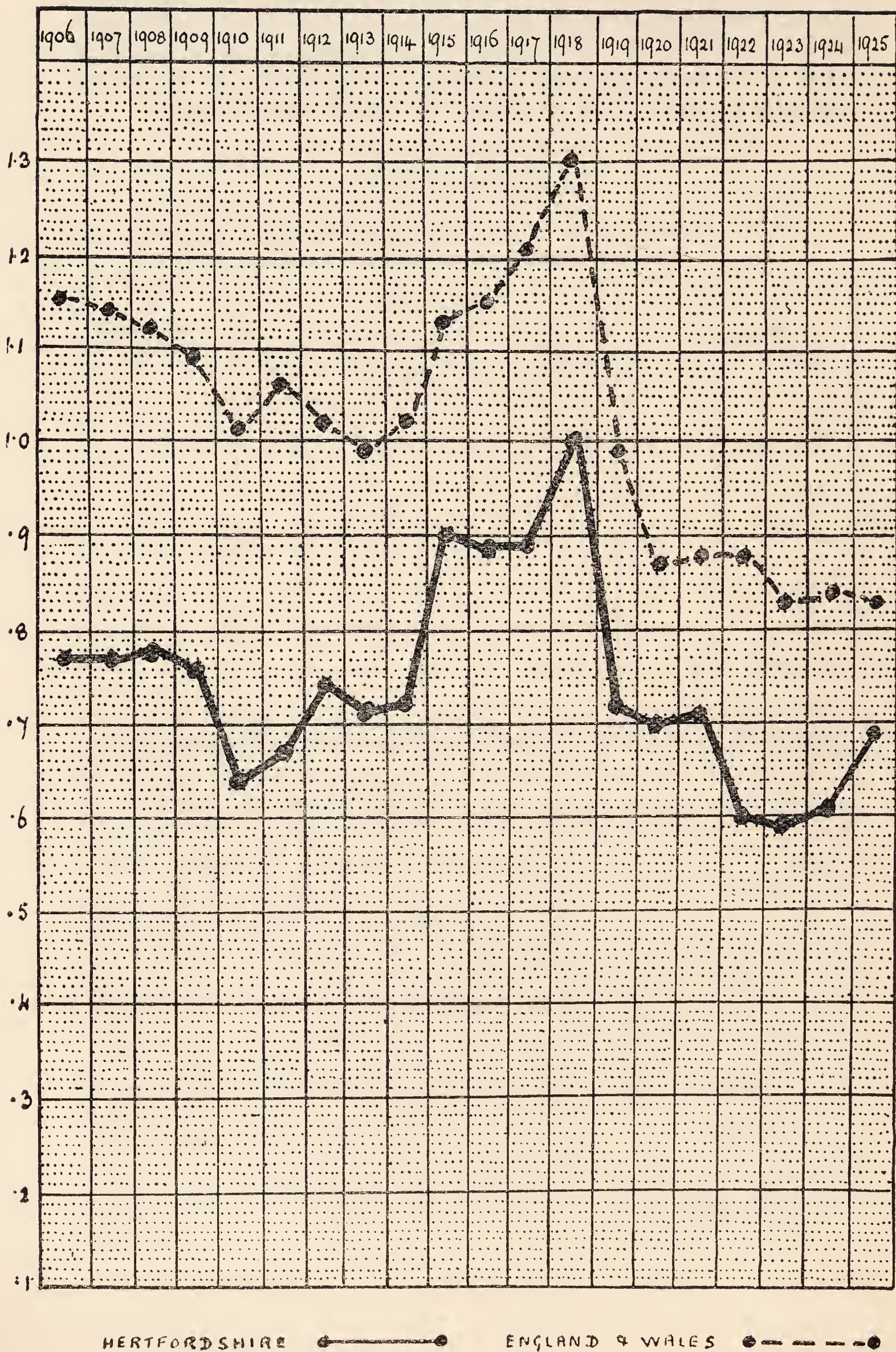
TABLE 9.	Hertfordshire.			England and Wales.
	Urban.	Rural.	County.	
1901-10 ... ..	·8	·7	·8	(1906-10) 1·3
1911-20 ... ..	·8	·7	·7	—
1924 ... ..	·6	·5	·6	·8
1925 ... ..	·7	·5	·6	·8
Number, 1925 ...	180	61	241	—

#### CRUDE DEATH-RATES FROM NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

	Hertfordshire.		
	Urban.	Rural.	County.
1921 ... ..	·18	·30	·21
1922 ... ..	·13	·05	·11
1923 ... ..	·16	·10	·14
1924 ... ..	·16	·13	·15
1925 ... ..	·15	·13	·15
Number, 1925 ...	36	15	51



DEATH-RATES, PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS,  
1906 - 1925.





The death-rate from pulmonary tuberculosis shows a slight increase, being 0·69 compared with 0·61 in 1924. The death-rate from non-pulmonary tuberculosis has also slightly increased, the rate being 0·14 compared with 0·13 during the previous year.

The comparative death-rates from pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis during the past seven years are given in the following table :—

COMPARATIVE DEATH-RATES FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

	1925.	1924.	1923.	1922.	1921.	1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0·69	0·61	0·59	0·61	0·71	0·70	0·72	1·04	0·89
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0·14	0·13	0·14	0·11	0·16	0·21	0·26	0·24	0·29

The death-rate from pulmonary tuberculosis during 1924 has been distinctly higher in the urban than in the rural districts, namely 0·75 compared with 0·56. The death-rate from non-pulmonary tuberculosis is also higher in the urban districts, 0·15 compared with 0·13. From reference to the above table it will be seen that the death-rate from both forms of tuberculosis has not fallen much during the past three years. This indicates the necessity for increased efforts in the direction of prevention and treatment if a further appreciable decrease in the death-rate from tuberculosis is to be secured. The fall in the death-rate from pulmonary tuberculosis during the past two decades is shown in the accompanying chart.

The number of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified during the year was 512 compared with 439 last year, giving an attack rate of 1·47 per 1,000 compared with 1·27 for 1924. There is an increase in the number of cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis notified during the year, namely, 152 compared with 148.

The highest death-rate from pulmonary tuberculosis during the year in the urban districts occurred in Baldock (1·1) and the lowest in Hemel Hempstead and Tring (0·2). In Sawbridge-worth no death occurred from pulmonary tuberculosis. In the rural districts the highest death-rate occurred in Ware (0·9), and the lowest in St. Albans (0·1).

The highest death-rate from non-pulmonary tuberculosis occurred in the Sawbridgeworth Urban District (0·42). In eight urban and three rural districts no death from this form of tuberculosis occurred.

It will be observed that the number of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified during the year is higher than last year. The number of cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis notified during the year is also higher. Special steps are now taken to secure the more accurate notification of all cases of the disease.

**Preventive Measures.**—It has been frequently emphasized that the provision of facilities for the immediate treatment of all cases of tuberculosis, essential as such facilities are, will not alone control the spread of this disease. Early diagnosis and early and efficient treatment will favourably influence the death-rate, but if the prevalence of tuberculosis is to be further checked and controlled, preventive measures on a comprehensive scale must be carried out. Improved housing, sufficient food of good quality, and the abolition of overcrowding and unhealthy conditions of employment are essential measures in relation to the prevention of this disease. A further essential step is the abolition of tuberculosis from dairy herds with the consequent supply of milk free from contamination by tubercle bacilli. Recent legislation will enable steps to be taken in this direction. The coming into force of the Tuberculosis Order, 1925, and the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, will stimulate action in securing a purer milk supply.

Special attention has been directed during the year to the examination of contacts of open cases of tuberculosis so as to find out the extent to which the disease exists amongst such and to secure treatment as early as possible. During the year 102 contacts of open cases of the disease were examined by the Tuberculosis Officers, of which 19 were found to be tuberculous and 7 were regarded as doubtful.

The following steps are taken with a view to closer co-operation in preventive effort between the County Council and Local Sanitary Authorities. Information of all cases of pulmonary tuberculosis with tubercle bacilli in the sputum is sent to the District Medical Officer of Health. This supplements the information from notification and provides more accurate information regarding these cases of the disease.

Information is sent to the District Medical Officer of Health regarding the death of a patient and of removal of a patient to hospital or sanatorium so that disinfection may be carried



out. The reports regarding the home conditions of patients forwarded by the health visitors and nurses contain from time to time references to insanitary conditions, structural defects, overcrowding, etc. The information thus obtained is forwarded to the District Medical Officer of Health with a view to necessary action being taken.

The following tables give information regarding the home conditions in the case of 389 patients suffering from tuberculosis:—

#### HOME CONDITIONS.

	Good.	Indifferent.	Bad.
Ex-Service Men ... ..	56·5	39·1	4·4
Insured ... ..	63·6	27·2	9·2
Uninsured ... ..	58·3	28·7	13·0
Total ... ..	60·5	28·6	10·9

#### NUMBER OF PERSONS PER BEDROOM.

	Two or less.	Three.	Four.	Over Four.
Ex-Service Men ...	65·2	26·1	8·7	...
Insured ... ..	68·8	24·2	5·8	1·2
Uninsured ... ..	67·7	18·8	10·9	2·6
Total ...	68·0	21·7	8·5	1·8

The above tables yield some suggestive information regarding the home conditions of patients suffering from tuberculosis. In over thirty per cent of the patients regarding whose home conditions a report was received, there existed a ratio of three or more than three persons per sleeping room. This indicates

the existence of overcrowding and emphasizes the urgent need for the provision of additional houses. Special attention is paid to the open type of case existing under such conditions, and special efforts are made to secure immediate institutional accommodation for this type of case. When the home conditions are reported as bad, or the extent of overcrowding as serious, steps are taken through the District Medical Officer of Health to deal with the matter as far as is practicable.

**Summary of New Work during the Year.**—In the following tables particulars are given of the work carried out during the year in connection with tuberculosis, including recommendations for treatment in the case of new patients.

Number of cases examined	.	.	.	1,023
Cases treated in sanatoria	.	.	.	407
Cases treated in hospitals	.	.	.	93
Cases treated at home	.	.	.	349
Cases treated at dispensaries.	.	.	.	246
Cases recommended milk	.	.	.	67
Shelters issued	.	.	.	15
Specimens of sputum examined	.	.	.	1,155
Tubercle bacilli present	.	.	.	428

**Treatment.**—The successful treatment of tuberculosis depends upon early diagnosis and prolonged treatment in hospital or sanatorium. Although from time to time many new methods of treatment are advocated for tuberculosis, open-air treatment with sunlight, rest, and nourishing food still produces the best results. The results obtained in certain forms of non-pulmonary tuberculosis by open-air hospital treatment, including light treatment, are remarkable. But of all factors in the modern treatment of tuberculosis the most important is rest; without it in active phases of the disease all other factors will fail. But rest in bed, or with a limb fixed in splint or plaster, requires patience, and the patience of someone frequently gives way before the activity of the disease has been controlled and healing processes promoted by rest. In the presence of fever, accelerated pulse, pain, or spasm, rest should constitute the guiding principle in treatment.

The County Sanatorium at Ware Park now provides accommodation for adult cases of pulmonary tuberculosis of



early, chronic and acute type. In addition to the usual open-air measures, special forms of treatment, including treatment by artificial pneumothorax and vaccines, have been carried out. A system of graduated walking exercise and graduated manual work is now part of the treatment after the period of rest has been completed. The period required to grade a patient with early active disease from rest up to full working capacity thus represents a term of residence of some length. It is of importance, however, in the sanatorium treatment of tuberculosis to hasten slowly, and for this reason it is necessary that patients when admitted for treatment should be informed that their residence in the Sanatorium will necessarily be a long one if the best results are to be obtained. During the year a special hut has been erected for the accommodation of four male colony patients.

Further particulars of the work carried out in connection with tuberculosis are given in the Annual Report on Tuberculosis for 1925.

---

### *VENEREAL DISEASES.*

The scheme adopted by your Council with a view to the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of venereal diseases has been continued during the year, and patients suffering from this form of disease attend one or other of the hospitals in London with which arrangements have been made for treatment. The number of patients from Hertfordshire attending the hospitals in London during 1925 was 205, compared with 236 for 1924, 213 for 1923, 142 for 1922, 166 for 1921, 215 for 1920, 235 for 1919, 113 for 1918, and 124 for 1917. Of this number 140 were found to be suffering from venereal disease, compared with 171 for 1924, 155 for 1923, 142 for 1922, 126 for 1921, 176 for 1920, 180 for 1919, 94 for 1918, and 108 for 1917. The total attendances were 3,167, compared with 3,455 for 1924, 2,443 for 1923, 1,708 for 1922, 2,436 for 1921, and 471 doses of salvarsan substitutes were given, as against 565 last year.

The amount of work carried out during the year is shown in the following table :—

## ANNUAL SUMMARY FOR 1925.

Hospitals.	New Patients.					Total Atten- dances.	In- patient days.	Salvar- san. No. of doses.
	Syp.	S.C.	Gon.	Not V.D.	Total.			
Albert Dock ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Charing Cross ... ..	1	...	1	...	2	26	...	6
Diseases of Skin ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
E. G. Anderson ... ..	1	...	...	...	1	18	45	...
Royal Northern ... ..	3	...	6	5	14	225	...	35
Hospital for Sick Children, Gt. Ormond Street	3	...	...	8	11	65	84	34
Guy's ... ..	1	...	16	1	18	234	30	3
King's College ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Lock (male) ... ..	6	...	17	6	29	444	208	13
Lock (female) ... ..	3	...	7	4	14	29	785	20
London ... ..	2	...	...	8	10	70	44	32
Metropolitan ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Middlesex ... ..	6	...	4	...	10	89	...	18
Miller General ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Royal Free ... ..	8	...	1	4	13	262	...	115
Royal London Ophthalmic	3	...	1	...	4	43	104	17
St. George's ... ..	2	...	...	...	2	4	...	12
St. John's Skin ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. John's, Lewisham ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Mary's ... ..	2	...	2	1	5	57	...	6
St. Paul's ... ..	3	...	4	5	12	180	...	30
St. Thomas' ... ..	3	1	12	18	34	525	32	62
Seamen's ... ..	...	1	1	...	2	9	99	...
S. London for Women...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...
University College ...	9	...	7	3	19	787	..	68
West London ... ..	...	...	1	1	2	42	...	...
Westminster ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...
S. Army Mothers' Hospital	...	...	2	1	3	52	158	...
Children's Medical Home	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

The total number of pathological examinations made for private practitioners in the County during the year is 62.

The number of pathological examinations carried out for practitioners was 62, compared with 83 for the previous year.

### BLIND PERSONS.

Under "The Blind Persons Act, 1920," the County Council prepared a scheme for promoting the welfare of blind persons ordinarily resident within their area, which came into operation on the 1st April, 1923.

This scheme, which is additional to the provision made by the Education Authority, includes the following arrangements.



**Children under School Age.**—To consider cases of infants born blind or with sight so defective as to be unable to distinguish common objects. When considered necessary, arrangements to be made for such children to be boarded out or sent to a residential home. Parents to contribute according to means.

**Home Workers and Home Teachers.**—These services are carried out in cases approved by the County Council by the London Society for Teaching the Blind, Swiss Cottage. The Council pays on a basis of service a sum not exceeding the rate of £5 per head per annum after allowing for the grants receivable by the said Society from the Ministry of Health. In addition the Hertfordshire Society for the Blind now employ two home teachers who visit the homes of the blind for purposes of instruction. Arrangements have been made for the teachers to forward monthly reports of their visits to your County Medical Officer and a tabulated report of the work undertaken will in future be submitted to each meeting of the Committee.

**Homes.**—Maintenance grants are made to blind persons not destitute, but whom the Council may consider it desirable to send to a home for the blind approved by the Ministry of Health.

**Hostels.**—Contributions will be made towards the maintenance of blind persons employed in approved workshops and resident in a hostel approved by the Ministry of Health, who from lack of housing or for some other reason may require such provision.

**Unemployable Blind.**—Arrangements are made, when necessary, for aged, infirm, and unemployable blind persons to be boarded out or to receive weekly or other payments direct when they reside in their own homes or lodgings. Destitute cases are dealt with as hitherto by Boards of Guardians.

**Registration.**—A system of registration of all blind persons living within the area is carried out by the County Medical Officer of Health.

In carrying out the scheme described above, the County Council have secured the help and co-operation of the County Nursing Association and the Hertfordshire Association for the Blind. During the year 66 visits were paid by nurses to blind persons in their homes. The register of blind persons in the County which has been prepared contained at the beginning

of 1923 315 names, 143 males and 162 females. During the year 1923 17 names were added to the register, 6 males and 11 females, while 18 names, 12 males and 6 females, were removed for various reasons. During 1925 there were added to the register 77 blind persons, compared with 45 last year, 34 males and 43 females. The number removed from the register during the year was 36, of which 13 were males and 23 were females. Fifty-six cases are at present receiving grants from the County Council, 22 males and 34 females.

---

### *MENTAL DEFECTS.*

The number of cases reported to the County Medical Officer during the year for examination as to their mental condition was 135, compared with 65 for the previous year. Of this number 79 were found to be mentally defective, one defective and epileptic, seven epileptic, and the remainder either dull and backward or suffering from some form of physical defect associated with backwardness.

The reason for this increase is that a much larger number of children of school age has been referred for investigation as a result of steps which have been taken to enable teachers of public elementary schools to report the cases of children who are considered to be three years or more behind their normal mental age. During the year also information has been received regarding the defectives in Poor Law Institutions and those in receipt of out-door relief.

During the year 27 cases were sent to certified institutions or placed under guardianship, compared with 20 cases last year.

At the end of 1925 there were 159 mental defectives in certified institutions and there were 18 cases under guardianship; of these four were County cases, and 14 were out-County cases. At the end of the year 69 cases of all ages were under statutory supervision.

During the year 27 children were admitted to Kingsmead, the special residential school for mentally defective children. Of the children admitted, 14 were boys and 18 were girls. At the end of the year there were in residence 128 cases, including nine females over 16, of which 84 were County and 44 out-County cases.

During the year 27 cases were discharged from Kingsmead School.

Special efforts have been made to secure the ascertaining



of all defectives in the County through the medium of Poor Law Authorities, School Attendance Officers, Medical Practitioners, and Nurses. There is some evidence that parents withhold information regarding the existence of defective children owing to the fear of having them removed to a special school or institution. This difficulty would in time be overcome if an institution were provided to which parents had easy access.

The absence of adequate accommodation in certified institutions, more especially for low-grade and complicated cases, is seriously felt from time to time. In the case of defectives over the age of 16, if adequate supervision and protection cannot be provided at home, it is essential that they should be admitted to and be retained in certified institutions where suitable training, employment and supervision are provided. The difficulties which have been met with in finding suitable accommodation for mental defectives in existing institutions emphasize the importance and urgent need of the steps which have been taken to provide a certified institution and training colony. Not only is the existing accommodation inadequate, but in the institutions in the County to which cases are sent there is no proper system of training and employment.

The provision of a certified institution is also essential for reasons of protection. There is a great risk of the female defective becoming an unmarried mother unless the supervision and protection in the home are adequate ; in this way the condition of mental deficiency is liable to be perpetuated. This possibility can only be prevented by segregation and supervision in a certified institution.

To make adequate provision it will be necessary to have a certified institution which would provide accommodation for three types of case of both sexes, namely (1) employable, (2) unemployable, and (3) hospital. Such an institution must be so constructed as to allow for future expansion and be so designed as to provide facilities for the training and employment of defectives in various occupations.

During the year the nurses paid 493 visits to 78 defectives in their homes, while 85 forms giving particulars regarding home conditions and circumstances of the defective were forwarded to the County Medical Office.

In the following table particulars are given of the type of defective in respect of those cases ascertained during the year, and of the procedure adopted. Further particulars are given in the Annual Report to the Committee under "The Mental Deficiency Act, 1913".

## PARTICULARS AS TO CIRCUMSTANCES AND PROCEDURE

ADOPTED.					Males.	Females.
Sent to Certified Institutions or placed under						
Guardianship (1925 cases)	...	...	...	...	5	9
Reported to Education Committee	...	...	...	...	53	34
Under proper care, no action desired by parents,						
able to work, or no action taken	...	...	...	...	6	6
On waiting list	...	...	...	...	9	13

## EPIDEMIC DISEASES.

The death-rate from epidemic disease is the same as last year, namely 0·17, the number of deaths being 62 compared with 60 last year. The death-rate is higher in the urban than in the rural districts, namely 0·2 compared with 0·07.

## DEATH-RATES FROM EPIDEMIC DISEASES.

(For each District see fly-leaf at end of Report.)

TABLE 10.	Urban.		Rural.		County.	
	Average 1914-1920.	1925.	Average 1914-1920.	1925.	Average 1914-1920.	1925.
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	·58	·007	·53	·009	·56	·008
Scarlet-fever ...	·07	·02	·12	—	·09	·01
Diphtheria and Croup...	·10	·06	·11	·009	·11	·04
Enteric and Continued Fever	·01	·02	·01	—	·01	·01
Whooping-cough ...	·11	·07	·10	·04	·10	·07
Cerebro-spinal Fever...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	·03	—	·009	—	·02
Polioencephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Rates ...	—	·2	—	·07	—	·17
Total Numbers ...	—	54	—	8	—	62

**Smallpox.**—There were no deaths from smallpox during the year. During the year five cases of smallpox were notified, 4 from the Hitchin Rural District, and 1 from the Watford Rural District.



**Chicken-pox.**—This disease is of some importance, as modified smallpox may be mistaken for it, and for this reason notification has been adopted in several districts for varying periods.

**Measles and Whooping-cough.**—There were 3 deaths from measles during the year, compared with 10 last year. The death-rate from this disease was 0·008, compared with 0·02 last year. The importance of the early treatment of measles so as to minimize the risk of serious pulmonary complications is becoming more definitely recognized by parents, and medical advice is now more frequently sought for this disease. Rest in bed during the early stages, even when the disease appears to be mild, is essential. There were 24 deaths from whooping-cough, compared with 16 last year; of these, 19 were in urban districts and 5 in rural districts. The death-rate was 0·07 compared with 0·04 last year.

**Scarlet Fever.**—There were 577 notifications of scarlet fever and 5 deaths from this disease during the year, compared with 387 notifications and 3 deaths last year, the death-rate being 0·01, compared with 0·008. There were no deaths from scarlet fever in the rural districts. The three deaths occurred in Barnet (1) and East Barnet Valley (2). Scarlet fever is at present an extremely mild disease, and is frequently not diagnosed until desquamation is taking place. It is therefore difficult to control and to trace the source of infection, especially in connection with mild outbreaks in schools.

**Influenza.**—There has been a decrease in the number of deaths from influenza, the number being 106, compared with 123 during 1924. There were 85 deaths in the urban districts and 21 in the rural districts. In the urban districts the largest number of deaths were 12 (Watford) and 7 (Hitchin). In the rural districts the largest number was 10 (Rickmansworth), 4 (Watford), and 3 (St. Albans, Hertford and Berkhamstead).

The chief risks from influenza are the pulmonary and cardiac complications to which it gives rise. Influenza, especially in the young and the aged, is a serious disease and demands immediate rest in bed and medical advice and treatment.

**Diphtheria.**—There were 147 cases of diphtheria notified during the year, 116 cases in the urban districts and 31 in the rural districts. The highest number of notifications was received from Watford Urban (26), Hertford Urban (11), East Barnet Valley (7), Watford Rural (7), and St. Albans City (6). There were 17 deaths from diphtheria during the year, compared with 9 last year, 16 in the urban districts, and one in the rural districts. The death-rate was 0·04, compared with 0·02 for

1924. The largest number of deaths from this disease in the urban districts was 3 (Watford and St. Albans).

**Enteric Fever and Para-typhoid Fever.**—The total number of cases of enteric fever notified during the year was 21, compared with 53 last year; of this number 10 were in urban districts and 11 in rural districts. The number of deaths from enteric fever was 4, all in urban districts. The death-rate was lower than last year, being 0·01 compared with 0·02. Of the 4 deaths two occurred in St. Albans City. There were five cases of para-typhoid fever notified during the year compared with 30 cases last year. These occurred in the following districts: Cheshunt (2), St. Albans (2), and Harpenden (1). There has been no renewal of the outbreaks which took place in residential institutions last year.

**Puerperal Fever.**—There were 20 cases of puerperal fever notified during the year, as compared with 15 last year, 12 in urban districts and 8 in rural districts. This increase is probably due to more accurate notification rather than an actual increase in the number of cases. There were 8 deaths returned as due to puerperal sepsis, compared with 7 last year. Of these 5 were in urban districts and 3 in the rural districts. The urban districts in which deaths from puerperal sepsis occurred are as follows: Hemel Hempstead (2), Bishop's Stortford, East Barnet Valley, and Watford (1). The rural districts in which deaths occurred were Hitchin (2) and Hadham (1). There were 10 deaths from parturition and accidents or diseases of pregnancy compared with 11 last year, 7 in the urban districts and 3 in the rural districts.

**Erysipelas.**—There were 78 cases of erysipelas notified during the year, 52 in urban districts and 26 in rural districts, compared with 88 for the previous year, but no return has been received regarding the actual number of deaths in the County from this cause. The largest number notified in the urban districts was 12 (Watford) and 8 (Great Berkhamstead), and in the rural districts 4 (Hatfield).

**Meningococcal Meningitis and Encephalitis Lethargica.**—There were no notifications and no deaths from meningococcal meningitis during the year. There were 15 notifications and 9 deaths from encephalitis lethargica during the year, 8 deaths in the urban districts and 1 in the rural districts. The death-rate from this disease was 0·02 compared with 0·05 last year. Of the notifications of encephalitis lethargica received 14 were from urban districts and only one from the rural districts. The largest number of notifications were received from Royston (3).



**Polioencephalitis and Poliomyelitis.**—Five cases of poliomyelitis were notified during the year, 4 from urban and 1 from rural districts. No case of polioencephalitis was notified during the year.

**Pneumonia.**—The number of deaths from this cause shows a slight decrease, namely, 182 compared with 189 last year. There were 140 deaths in urban districts and 42 in rural districts. In the urban districts the largest number of deaths occurred in Watford (32), St. Albans (14), East Barnet Valley (10), and Berkhamstead and Letchworth (9). The notifications received during the year were pneumonia 113, influenzal pneumonia 8.

In the rural districts the largest number of deaths occurred in Barnet (6), Hatfield (5), and Ware (5).

**Bronchitis.**—The number of deaths from bronchitis has slightly decreased, namely, 262, compared with 280 last year; the number in the urban districts being 174 and in the rural districts, 88.

**Heart Disease.**—There has been a slight increase in the number of deaths from heart disease, namely, 567, compared with 552 for 1924. Of the total number 382 were in urban and 185 in rural districts.

The increase in the number of deaths from heart disease has to be considered in relation to the age at which death took place. Of the total deaths from this cause 73·3 per cent. occurred over the age of 65. In the urban districts the percentage over 65 was 74·3 and in the rural districts 71·3. Heart disease, apart from the condition arising from toxic causes, is a feature of advancing years, and as a cause of death will increase with increased duration of life.

**Other Diseases.**—The number of deaths from *acute* and *chronic Bright's disease* is less, being 100, compared with 104. There is a decrease in the number of deaths from *cerebral hæmorrhage*, the number being 242, compared with 248. The number of deaths from *cirrhosis of liver* was 16, the same as last year. The deaths from *appendicitis* were 31 compared with 32 last year. There is a slight increase in the number of deaths from *arterio-sclerosis* and *diabetes*. There was 1 death from *anthrax* and 1 death from *leprosy*.

**Other Notifiable Diseases.**—During the year 25 cases of *dysentery* were notified the same as last year; these were received with one or two exceptions from mental hospitals. Five cases of *malaria* were notified during the year, all in urban districts. The number of cases of *ophthalmia neonatorum* notified during the year was 4 compared with 8 last year, all in urban districts.

TABLE II.—CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Sex.	AGGREGATE OF URBAN DISTRICTS.							
		All Ages.	0—	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	45—
All Causes ... ..	M.	1211	82	22	23	32	33	132	328
	F.	1311	99	21	21	16	43	135	271
1. Enteric Fever ... ..	M.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F.	4	...	...	...	1	1	1	1
2. Smallpox ... ..	M.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Measles ... ..	M.	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
	F.	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
4. Scarlet Fever ... ..	M.	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
	F.	3	...	...	2	...	..	1	...
5. Whooping-cough ... ..	M.	7	6	...	1	...	...	...	...
	F.	12	7	1	4	...	...	...	...
6. Diphtheria ... ..	M.	7	...	1	1	5	...	...	...
	F.	9	...	2	2	4	1	...	...
7. Influenza ... ..	M.	40	1	1	1	...	4	5	10
	F.	45	1	...	...	1	2	5	13
8. Encephalitis Lethargica	M.	4	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
	F.	4	...	...	2	...	...	1	1
9. Meningococcal Meningitis	M.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	M.	105	...	...	...	3	12	51	33
	F.	75	...	1	...	...	18	45	8
11. Other Tuberculous Diseases	M.	18	2	3	3	3	3	2	1
	F.	18	2	2	1	...	6	6	1
12. Cancer, Malignant Disease	M.	161	...	1	1	1	...	4	67
	F.	200	...	...	...	...	2	10	90
13. Rheumatic Fever ... ..	M.	6	...	...	...	1	...	3	1
	F.	5	...	...	...	3	...	...	2
14. Diabetes ... ..	M.	17	...	...	...	...	2	...	5
	F.	11	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
15. Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	M.	71	...	...	...	...	...	1	15
	F.	87	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
16. Heart Disease ... ..	M.	167	...	...	...	1	1	3	44
	F.	215	...	...	...	1	1	12	35
17. Arterio-sclerosis ... ..	M.	51	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
	F.	46	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
18. Bronchitis ... ..	M.	79	6	3	...	...	...	...	12
	F.	95	5	1	...	...	1	2	4
19. Pneumonia (all forms)	M.	75	7	6	4	1	2	15	21
	F.	65	9	6	1	1	2	7	18
20. Other Respiratory Diseases	M.	21	2	1	1	1	...	1	6
	F.	13	...	...	...	...	1	1	3
21. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	M.	13	...	...	...	...	...	1	9
	F.	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
22. Diarrhœa, etc.	M.	14	8	1	1	...	...	...	...
	F.	18	6	3	1	...	...	1	3
23. Appendicitis and Typhlitis	M.	17	...	...	4	3	...	3	5
	F.	4	...	...	..	2	...	...	...
24. Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	M.	6	...	...	...	...	..	1	4
	F.	5	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
25. Acute and Chronic Nephritis	M.	33	...	...	...	1	1	4	9
	F.	40	...	...	...	...	1	2	13
26. Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	M.	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...
	F.	5	...	...	...	...	...	5	...
27. Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	M.	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...
	F.	7	...	...	...	...	...	7	...
28. Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	M.	31	30	...	1	...	..	...	...
	F.	54	53	..	1	..	...	...	...
29. Suicide... ..	M.	19	...	...	...	...	..	7	8
	F.	7	...	...	...	...	...	1	5
30. Other Deaths from Violence	M.	45	1	1	1	7	5	10	8
	F.	24	2	2	2	...	2	2	4
31. Other Defined Diseases	M.	191	19	3	3	3	3	18	51
	F.	231	13	3	4	3	5	19	38
32. Causes ill-defined or unknown	M.	10	...	1	...	...	...	2	3
	F.	4	1	...	...	...	...	1	1



AGGREGATE OF RURAL DISTRICTS.											
65—	75—	All Ages.	0—	1—	2—	5—	15 —	25—	45—	65—	75—
256	303	560	46	3	9	6	18	54	142	123	159
250	455	544	31	6	6	11	22	39	119	121	189
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	I	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	2	I	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	11	11	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	3	I
6	17	10	...	I	...	...	...	3	2	2	2
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	I	37	...	...	...	I	9	18	7	I	I
3	...	24	...	...	I	...	9	6	5	3	...
I	...	10	...	...	I	3	3	2	I	...	...
...	...	5	...	...	...	I	I	...	3	...	...
55	32	82	...	...	I	...	...	2	33	27	19
49	49	76	...	...	...	...	...	4	32	17	23
I	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	...
...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	I	...	...
6	4	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	I
3	5	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	4
26	29	37	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	10	19
26	41	57	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	25	18
55	63	86	...	...	...	...	I	4	22	29	30
54	112	99	...	...	...	...	...	4	22	31	42
19	19	17	...	...	...	...	...	I	3	4	9
13	27	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	11
11	47	45	8	I	...	...	...	I	5	8	22
19	63	43	2	...	I	...	...	...	5	12	23
9	10	30	2	2	2	...	...	4	7	8	5
12	9	12	I	2	2	I	...	...	I	2	3
6	3	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	5
I	7	5	I	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	3
2	I	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	I
...	I	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	I	...	...
I	3	6	4	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
2	2	4	...	...	...	I	...	I	...	...	2
2	...	4	...	...	...	I	...	...	2	I	...
2	...	6	I	...	I	2	...	...	I	...	I
...	I	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	9	10	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	2	I
14	10	17	...	...	...	...	I	2	4	6	4
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
...	...	23									

TABLE 12.—CAUSES OF DEATHS

CAUSES OF DEATH.				Baldock.		Barnet.		Berkhamstead.		Bishop's Stortford.		Bushey.		Cheshunt.		Chorleywood.		E. Barnet Valley.		Harpenden.	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1	Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	Scarlet-fever	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
5	Whooping-cough	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	1	1
7	Influenza	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	2	4	1	...	1	...	2	2	2	1	2	...	2
8	Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	Meningococcal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	2	1	5	6	2	6	...	5	2	3	9	3	1	1	10	2
11	Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	1
12	Cancer, Malignant Disease	...	...	...	...	2	4	9	14	10	9	3	13	2	3	6	11	1	2	7	8
13	Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	2	...	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	1
15	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	...	...	...	...	2	3	3	5	2	3	5	4	1	3	2	2	1	...	4	8
16	Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	2	3	9	16	7	8	7	8	4	6	9	13	4	3	6	11
17	Arterio-sclerosis	...	...	...	...	...	1	9	4	...	...	3	5	2	1	4	...	...	1	3	4
18	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	2	1	7	6	3	...	3	4	2	2	3	6	...	...	3	7
19	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	1	2	4	4	8	1	3	3	4	1	1	4	1	...	4	6
20	Other Respiratory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	2	...	2	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	1
21	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	1
22	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	2	3	...
23	Appendicitis and Typhlitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24	Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	...
25	Acute and Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	5	1	1	2	6	4	...	1	2	2	1
26	Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
27	Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
28	Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	3	1	2	5	1	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...
29	Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	1
30	Other Deaths from Violence	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	2	2	4	2	...	1	4	...	...
31	Other defined Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	1	8	19	8	13	6	9	7	8	7	11	3	1	8	7
32	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
All causes...				14	16	71	91	54	45	47	65	33	35	61	67	14	12	61	65	37	31
Total				30	162	99	112	68	128	26	126	68									



BETWEEN SEXES IN URBAN DISTRICTS, 1925.

Hemel Hempstead		Hertford Borough.		Hitchin.		Hoddesdon.		Letchworth.		Rickmansworth.		Royston.		St. Albans City.		Sawbridge-worth.		Stevenage.		Tring.		Ware.		Watford.		TOTAL.		Causes of Death.	
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M. & F.			
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	I		
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2		
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3		
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	4		
I	I	...	I	...	3	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	19	5			
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	I	I	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	3	16	6			
2	3	2	2	2	5	...	4	2	3	5	5	I	...	4	5	...	...	...	...	...	2	I	9	3	85	7			
...	...	I	...	...	I	...	...	I	...	...	...	I	...	I	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	8		
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9		
2	I	3	5	8	I	I	I	6	2	3	3	3	...	12	8	...	...	2	I	I	...	2	I	28	23	180	10		
I	4	2	...	...	I	...	I	I	...	...	I	...	...	5	5	I	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	2	36	11			
9	7	5	14	6	14	7	4	9	5	2	5	5	10	24	28	2	I	5	I	3	I	3	4	37	34	361	12		
...	I	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	13		
...	...	...	...	I	I	...	...	I	...	...	I	I	...	I	I	I	...	...	2	...	I	I	4	I	28	14			
I	3	5	5	3	8	2	2	3	3	...	I	3	3	10	12	I	I	2	...	I	2	2	2	17	16	158	15		
17	16	7	4	8	11	4	8	10	7	3	2	5	4	27	34	I	3	4	6	5	9	2	5	19	34	382	16		
2	3	2	4	...	...	4	I	...	2	5	3	I	I	4	2	I	I	I	...	...	...	I	7	7	97	17			
3	4	7	8	6	6	...	6	I	3	4	4	3	...	6	9	...	...	I	5	2	2	I	7	22	15	174	18		
2	5	I	4	4	3	I	2	4	5	2	I	I	2	9	5	I	...	2	I	...	...	3	19	13	140	19			
2	...	I	I	...	...	...	I	2	...	I	...	...	3	...	I	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	I	6	...	34	20		
...	I	3	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	2	I	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	17	21		
I	...	...	I	2	...	I	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	18	22		
I	...	I	...	2	...	2	...	...	I	I	...	...	I	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	I	21	23		
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	2	2	11	24		
2	4	3	...	...	2	...	I	3	2	2	I	...	...	4	6	...	I	...	...	...	I	I	I	3	5	73	25		
...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	5	26		
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	2	7	27		
I	I	3	6	...	4	...	I	...	5	I	4	...	I	6	7	...	I	3	...	...	I	I	I	5	11	85	28		
...	I	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	I	...	...	...	I	3	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	4	I	26	29		
2	4	I	2	...	...	2	...	...	I	5	...	I	...	6	3	...	...	I	...	I	I	2	I	8	5	69	30		
8	7	14	17	15	20	2	3	8	7	7	12	5	3	21	23	2	5	7	5	3	7	10	4	38	55	436	31		
...	...	2	...	...	I	I	...	I	...	I	...	...	...	...	...	...	I	3	...	...	...	...	...	I	2	14	32		
57	68	67	74	59	81	27	36	54	48	44	44	31	30	150	163	10	15	34	21	18	24	27	37	241	243	2522			
125		141		140		63		102		88		61		313		25		55		42		64		484					

TABLE 13.—CAUSES OF DEATH BETWEEN SEXES

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Ashwell.		Barnet.		Berkhampstead.		Buntingford.		Hadham.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1 Enteric Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2 Smallpox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3 Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4 Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 Whooping-cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6 Diphtheria ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7 Influenza ... ..	...	...	...	1	2	1	...	1	1	...
8 Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9 Meningococcal Meningitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	1	2	...	2	2	...	2	1	...	2
11 Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	1
12 Cancer, Malignant Disease ... ..	5	6	2	3	3	6	3	4	8	4
13 Rheumatic Fever ... ..	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
14 Diabetes .. ...	1	...	...	3	1	...	1	1	1	1
15 Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc. ... ..	3	3	...	3	1	2	3	1	4	5
16 Heart Disease ... ..	2	4	2	4	7	6	8	5	4	4
17 Arterio-sclerosis ... ..	...	...	2	...	1	1	1	3	3	2
18 Bronchitis ... ..	2	2	2	...	...	2	...	1	3	7
19 Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	...	2	6	...	3	1	2	1	1	...
20 Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	2	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	...
21 Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22 Diarrhœa, etc. (under two years) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23 Appendicitis and Typhlitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24 Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25 Acute and Chronic Nephritis ... ..	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	1
26 Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
27 Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
28 Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth ... ..	...	...	1	1	...	2	...	2	1	...
29 Suicide ... ..	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30 Other Deaths from Violence ... ..	1	...	1	1	...	...	2	2	2	...
31 Other defined Diseases ... ..	10	7	2	5	2	7	10	5	9	6
32 Cases ill-defined or unknown ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All causes ... ..	27	29	22	25	22	30	33	28	38	36
Total ... ..	56		47		52		61		74	



## IN RURAL DISTRICTS, 1925.

Hatfield.		Hemel Hempstead.		Hertford.		Hitchin.		St. Albans.		Ware.		Watford.		Welwyn.		TOTAL.	Causes of Death.
M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.&F.	
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	6
...	...	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	...	1	3	...	...	21	7
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	8
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
5	1	3	2	2	2	4	5	2	...	5	6	9	...	2	1	61	10
2	...	1	...	2	1	1	1	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	15	11
8	8	11	2	6	5	7	11	12	7	5	6	9	9	3	5	158	12
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	4	13
...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	15	14
3	1	...	7	6	4	3	13	2	6	8	7	3	2	1	3	94	15
7	7	4	7	6	11	3	12	19	9	9	11	13	13	2	6	185	16
...	1	2	1	1	2	2	2	1	...	2	2	1	1	1	...	32	17
3	3	3	4	7	3	7	4	5	6	6	8	4	3	3	...	88	18
4	1	1	...	3	1	1	2	3	...	3	2	2	1	1	1	42	19
...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	3	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	15	20
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	1	5	21
1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	4	22
...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	...	1	4	1	...	...	...	10	23
1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	5	24
1	3	2	1	...	1	...	1	3	...	1	1	1	2	1	4	27	25
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	26
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	3	27
1	...	2	2	1	...	6	1	3	3	...	3	4	4	4	2	43	28
2	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	3	1	...	2	...	...	13	29
1	1	4	1	3	1	4	2	2	4	2	2	2	...	1	...	39	30
9	15	9	6	9	6	11	18	9	13	7	5	8	15	5	3	211	31
...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	3	32
48	44	45	34	53	39	54	80	73	51	58	62	61	59	26	27	1104	
92		79		92		134		124		120		120		53			

### *ISOLATION HOSPITALS.*

Previous reports have contained full particulars as to the function of isolation hospitals and as to the accommodation available in various districts of the County.

In some districts the facilities provided for the isolation and treatment of certain forms of infectious and notifiable diseases are still inadequate. The old restricted view that accommodation in the isolation hospital should be available for cases of scarlet fever and diphtheria only is still held and no consideration is given to the fact that since the war certain acute diseases involving the central nervous system, and for which isolation and hospital treatment are necessary, have become more prevalent. Even in the cases of enteric fever and erysipelas, it is difficult in some districts to obtain admission to isolation hospitals. The isolation hospital, if it is adequately to meet the requirements of this district which it serves, must be so arranged and administered as to be in a position to admit without delay any acute specific disease of an infectious character for which isolation and treatment in hospital are considered necessary.

Special difficulties are experienced from time to time with reference to the hospital treatment of cases of puerperal sepsis. It is quite impossible to treat or to nurse such cases in a small crowded house, and immediate admission to hospital where skilled treatment and nursing could be obtained would reduce the present high case mortality of this condition. During the year 20 notifications of puerperal fever were received and 8 deaths were recorded. The County Council has now included under its scheme of maternity and child-welfare arrangements to pay half the cost of the hospital treatment of notifiable cases of puerperal fever in approved institutions.

### *SMALLPOX ISOLATION HOSPITAL.*

In most of the districts in the County some provision is now made for the isolation of cases of smallpox, although the standard varies considerably. The accommodation which exists for the isolation of cases of smallpox in the various districts of the County is under review from time to time. There were 5 cases of smallpox in the county during the year, 4 in the Hitchin urban district and 1 in the Watford Rural District. By prompt isolation in hospital, supervision of contacts, and vaccination the outbreak was controlled and the spread of the disease prevented. The outbreak, small as it was, illustrates the urgent necessity of having hospital accommodation available to meet immediate demands.



By an order under Section 2 of "The Public Health (Prevention and Treatment of Diseases) Act, 1913", your Council has provided a smallpox hospital at Cheshunt, with accommodation for ten patients, for the Barnet Urban, Cheshunt Urban, East Barnet Valley Urban, and Barnet Rural Districts. The hospital is partly furnished and is occupied by a caretaker.

#### PROVISION OF ANTITOXIN.

By the Diphtheria Antitoxin Order, 1910, issued by the Local Government Board in August, 1910, local authorities are empowered to provide, directly or by contract, a temporary supply of antitoxin and of medical assistance for its use, subject to the advice of the Medical Officer of Health. Suitable arrangements for the supply of antitoxin are made in about half of thirty-four districts. Some difficulty no doubt arises in the rural districts, but this could be overcome if the uniform method were adopted of medical practitioners supplying the antitoxin in necessitous cases and having the cost refunded by the Councils. Every facility should be offered for the immediate use of antitoxin even in suspected cases.

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Arrangements are made by the County Council (with the Counties Public Health Laboratories, London) for the free examination of sputum for tubercle bacilli. During the year 1,229 specimens of sputum were examined. In most districts some arrangements are made by the Local Sanitary Authorities for the examination of swabs for the diphtheria bacillus. Hospitals and medical practitioners also have their own arrangements for the examination of bacteriological and pathological specimens. There are sufficient demands for this special work in the County to make it desirable to have a County Laboratory.

#### DISINFECTION.

Disinfection aims at destroying the organisms which give rise to disease, and this can best be secured by means of steam. Steam disinfection is carried out either by means of a portable disinfector or by utilizing the large disinfectors at the Isolation Hospitals. In many districts the necessity for a suitable disinfecting apparatus is urgently felt, especially to secure the disinfecting of bedclothes in the case of infectious diseases. With regard to house disinfection, cleanliness, fresh air, and sunlight are valuable natural means of securing the destruction of micro-organisms.

Steps are taken to keep in close touch with the local authorities in connection with the disinfection of premises occupied



by open cases of tuberculosis. After the admission of such cases to hospital or sanatorium, or immediately it is known that death of the patient has occurred in his home, a communication is sent to the district Medical Officer of Health requesting that disinfection should be carried out.

### *MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.*

The work carried out under "The Maternity and Child Welfare Act, 1918", and "The Notification of Births Acts, 1907 and 1915", has continued during the year without much alteration, except that four ante-natal clinics have been established at Hitchin, Hertford, Letchworth, and Waltham Cross. It is satisfactory to be able to report that notwithstanding a considerable amount of illness and ill-health amongst young children there has been a fall in the infant mortality, which is 47 compared with 51 last year. The striking decline in the infant mortality during the year is well illustrated in the chart on page 11. During the year the number of maternal deaths from puerperal sepsis and accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition was 18. The maternal mortality in the County during the year was 3.2, the same as for 1924, compared with 2.9 for 1923. It is somewhat remarkable that the maternal deaths from puerperal sepsis still continues about the same level. This suggests that this condition is due to an auto-infection rather than to infection introduced from without.

The scheme of Maternity and Child Welfare in the County includes both official and voluntary effort, and may briefly be summarized as follows :—(1) Thirteen County Council Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, at which consultations are held, infants are weighed, and instruction and advice are given to nursing and expectant mothers ; in addition, also, a considerable amount of voluntary work is undertaken in various directions by ladies who are interested in the work of the Centres ; (2) Four ante-natal clinics ; (3) Thirteen Voluntary Maternity and Child Welfare Centres ; (4) Nine Weighing Centres ; (5) Provision of maternity beds in four districts in the County, namely, Hertford, Hitchin, Hemel Hempstead, and Watford ; (6) Convalescent Home at St. Leonards ; (7) attendance at orthopædic and massage clinics and dental clinics ; (8) the provision of hospital treatment in exceptional cases of infantile diarrhoea and ophthalmia neonatorum ; (9) health visiting ; (10) the granting of milk free or at half cost to necessitous mothers and young children on a medical certificate ; and (11) arrangements to pay half the cost of the hospital treatment of cases of notifiable puerperal fever in approved institutions.



TABLE GIVING PARTICULARS OF ATTENDANCES AT VOLUNTARY MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES DURING 1925.

Centres.	No. of times Centre open.	No. of Mothers attending.	No. of Children attending.	Total Children's Attendances.	Average Attendance of Children.	No. of Deaths of Children.	No. of Children who had Orthopaedic treatment.	No. of Expectant Mothers attending.	Average attendance of Expectant Mothers.	No. of Infant Consultations.	No. of Mothers' Consultations.	No. of Anti-Natal Consultations.	No. of Talks given at Centre.	No. of Doctors' Attendances.
Aldbury . . .	26	28	46	781	30	..	..	2	3	104	..	6	3	13
Apsley End . . .	22	58	76	436	19	1	..	..	..	209	..	..	21	29
Baldock . . .	48	58	80	983	20	..	2	3	1	376	..	3	4	46
Chorleywood . . .	23	27	41	393	17	..	..	..	..	393	..	..	20	23
Harpenden . . .	21	82	103	417	20	..	6	21	7	134	21	28	5	11
Hoddesdon . . .	50	96	131	1390	27	3	9	25	2	290	..	19	12	24
King's Langley . . .	27	41	57	543	20	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	15	10
Knebworth . . .	37	44	68	658	18	..	..	6	12	136	6	12	5	9
Langleybury . . .	26	15	23	271	10	..	..	4	2	144	..	..	6	12
Rickmansworth . . .	26	72	86	494	19	2	1	7	3	310	19	19	..	22
Royston . . .	22	40	97	392	17	1	..	..	..	202	98	..	9	12
Welwyn . . .	46	88	122	1071	23	..	1	11	4	287	..	42	7	34
Welwyn Garden City .	52	148	185	1275	24	1	2	25	4	868	56	12	10	52
Totals . . .	426	797	1115	9131	21	9	21	104	38	3453	200	141	117	297

These 13 Voluntary Centres were open 426 times during the year. 1115 children attended, making a total attendance of 9131, which gives an average attendance of 21.  
The doctors attended 297 times, and 3,453 Infant Consultations were held.

TABLE GIVING PARTICULARS OF ATTENDANCES AT VOLUNTARY WEIGHING CENTRES DURING 1925.

CENTRES.	No of Times Centre Open.	No. of Mothers Attending.	No. of Children Attending.	Total Children's Attendances.	Average Attendance of Children.	No. of Deaths of Children.	No. of Children who had Orthopaedic Treatment.	No. of Talks given at Centre.
Bushey .. ..	42	36	52	895	21	..	..	..
Croxley Green .. ..	12	23	23	209	16	..	..	12
High Cross .. ..	12	46	69	421	35	..	..	4
King's Walden .. ..	43	56	56	450	10	..	..	..
North Mymms .. ..	10	29	46	350	35	..	1	10
Potten End .. ..	11	23	41	240	21	..	..	1
Redbourn .. ..	12	36	36	360	30	..	..	1
Ware .. ..	20	130	160	440	20	..	..	..
Weston .. ..	12	30	48	225	18	..	..	..
Totals .. ..	174	409	531	3590	20	..	1	28

In addition special arrangements have been made for providing treatment in hospital for orthopædic cases and for assistance in obtaining surgical appliances.

Special reference requires to be made to the excellent work in connection with the care of mothers and children which is being carried out at the Voluntary Maternity and Child Welfare Centres and the Weighing Centres. These Centres are linked up to your Council scheme, and they are the means of supplementing the work of the County Council Centres. As they are established in the smaller urban and some rural districts, they meet the requirements of a population which would not otherwise have been provided for. The Weighing Centres, at which the Health Visitors attend and where she weighs the infants and gives health talks and advice to the mothers, have been found to serve a very useful purpose, especially in rural districts. They help to centralize the work of the Health Visitor, and by this means lessen the amount of time which would be occupied in getting about in order to carry out the work of health visiting. These centres are linked up to the County scheme through the County Health Visitor, who supervises the work of the health visitors, midwives, and nurses in the County, and who keeps a record of the work carried out at these various voluntary centres during the year. Particulars of this work is given in tables appearing above.

Accommodation for maternity cases is provided at the Maternity Home, Watford (12 beds), West Herts Hospital (5 beds), the Maples, Hitchin (4 beds), and the County Hospital, Hertford (4 beds). During the year 211 maternity cases were admitted to the Watford home, 78 maternity cases were admitted to the West Herts Hospital, 50 were admitted to the County Hospital, Hertford, and 79 were admitted to the maternity beds at the Maples, Hitchin.

In the following report Dr. Swatman gives particulars of the work carried out at the County Council Centres during the year.

#### DR. SWATMAN'S REPORT.

In 1925 the County Council Maternity and Infant Welfare Centres have been held at weekly intervals at Berkhamstead and Tring (Dr. Sparrow), Barnet, Bishop's Stortford, Waltham Cross, East Barnet, Hatfield, Hemel Hempstead, Hertford, Hitchin, Letchworth, St. Albans, and Stevenage.

At all these centres the work has been carried out on the



same lines as in previous years, but at four of the larger ones very considerable additions have been made by the institution of ante-natal clinics entirely apart from the infant consultations. Until 1925, expectant mothers, nursing mothers, and infants and toddlers up to 5 years old, all came at the same session to the Medical consultations at the welfare centres, and at some of these the number of cases needing advice was so great that it was extremely difficult to give adequate time to the more complex ones, especially the expectant mothers. On account of this, and in view of the importance now attached to ante-natal work, since the autumn of 1925 special sessions have been held in the mornings at fortnightly intervals, at the centres at Hitchin, Hertford, Letchworth, Waltham Cross. Except for these additional clinics the work at the centres has followed the usual routine as far as was possible with the large numbers who attended. In 1925 there were 2,477 more attendances than in the previous year, and the number of children on the books (3,051) and the number of their attendances (29,549) almost equalled those of 1920, the year of record numbers. That was the year in which so many mothers came to the centres in the hope of getting a grant of free milk and was the last year in which the County Council gave these grants without a compulsory medical certificate.

The actual figures for the centres as a whole are given below :—

Number of times the centres were held, 614.

Number of registers of :—

(a) children under 5 years old, 3,051; (b) expectant mothers, 269.

Number of attendances of children, 29,549.

Number of consultations with the doctor by expectant mothers, 405.

Average number of attendances of children each time the centre was open, 47.

Number of deaths among the children, 21 (= 7 per 1,000).

Number of defects and ailments among the children, other than bronchitis, malnutrition, digestive troubles, and those directly due to wrong feeding (as tabulated), 720.

Number of prescriptions given free or at half cost, for cod-liver oil, malt or iron (approximately), 1,530.

Number of children who had orthopædic treatment, 68.

The percentage of breast feeding for infants up to six months old for the centres as a whole, was as follows :—

- (a) Entirely breast-fed, 66 per cent.
- (b) Partly breast-fed, 17 per cent.
- (c) Entirely bottle-fed, 17 per cent.

Whenever it is at all possible, mothers are encouraged to breast-feed their infants.

Of the 21 children who died, twelve were under 1 year old. The causes of their deaths were as follows :—(a) congenital heart disease ; (b) congenital syphilis ; (c) tubercular meningitis ; (d) pneumonia ; (e) broncho-pneumonia ; (f) whooping-cough and cerebral hæmorrhage ; (g) whooping-cough and convulsions ; (h) convulsions ; (i) accidents, i.e., poisoning, suffocation.

More than half the number of those who died were handicapped by some serious congenital condition, i.e. heart disease, syphilis, tuberculosis, hydrocephalus, harelip and cleft palate, deformed body, undeveloped brain.

This fact is another indication of the importance of antenatal work, and teaching, combined with better home conditions for the expectant mother.

The ailments from which the expectant mothers who attended during the year were suffering, were :—Anæmia, varicose-veins, dental caries, morbus cordis, tape-worm, fibrosis of lung, dyspepsia.

In the accompanying tables the figures are set out for each centre separately, and compared with those of the previous year.



## CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS OLD.

Name of Centre.	No. of times open.	No. of names on the books in		No. of attendances in		Average No. of attendances each time the Centre was open in		No. of deaths in		No. who had Orthopædic treatment in		No. of defects as tabulated in	
		1924.	1925.	1924.	1925.	1924.	1925.	1924.	1925.	1924.	1925.	1924.	1925.
St. Albans .	52	343	427	2,981	3,003	60	58	5	6	16	23	69	103
Letchworth .	50	348	379	4,015	4,210	84	84	2	3	5	6	55	72
Hemel Hempstead	50	169	303	1,671	2,835	35	60	0	2	0	0	29	55
Waltham Cross .	48	285	300	2,536	3,210	52	66	1	0	1	3	51	95
Hitchin .	48	182	265	2,125	2,315	46	48	0	3	8	13	54	68
Barnet .	44	216	227	2,020	1,882	45	43	2	0	3	5	24	45
Bishop's Stortford	49	197	196	3,129	3,143	64	64	0	2	0	0	35	37
Berkhampstead .	42	203	188	1,627	1,458	35	35	2	1	0	0	23	43
Hertford .	52	140	188	1,374	1,719	27	33	1	2	6	6	37	52
Tring .	46	216	171	2,523	2,355	55	51	2	1	0	0	38	72
East Barnet .	45	71	143	476	817	10	18	0	1	1	0	5	28
Stevenage .	43	151	134	1,154	1,290	25	30	1	0	0	3	31	31
Hatfield .	45	121	130	1,541	1,312	35	29	1	0	1	6	35	52
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	614	2,642	3,051	27,172	29,549	44	47	17	21	41	68	509	720

The number of prescriptions (for cod liver-oil, malt, or iron) given free or at half cost in 1924, was 1,451.

The number of prescriptions (for cod liver-oil, malt, or iron) given free or at half cost in 1925, was 1,530.

## EXPECTANT MOTHERS.

Name of Centre.	No. on books in		No. of consultations. with doctor.	
	1924.	1925	1924.	1925.
Hitchin. . .	36	52	50	71
Hertford . . .	28	48	52	67
Waltham Cross . . .	49	26	72	43
Berkhampstead . . .	33	25	36	30
Tring . . .	28	20	75	35
Barnet . . .	18	16	32	33
Letchworth . . .	12	16	24	22
St. Albans . . .	12	16	16	19
Hemel Hempstead . . .	5	14	9	23
Hatfield . . .	10	11	14	14
Stevenage . . .	10	10	16	17
East Barnet . . .	1	8	2	11
Bishop's Stortford . . .	16	7	31	20
	258	269	431	405

BREAST FEEDING PERCENTAGE FOR INFANTS UP TO 12 MONTHS  
OLD.

	Entirely Breast-fed.		Partially Breast-fed.		Entirely Bottle-fed.	
	1924.	1925.	1924.	1925.	1924.	1925.
Berkhampstead . . .	79	81	8	5	13	14
Hatfield . . .	74	78	10	6	16	16
Hertford . . .	75	71	16	19	9	10
Stevenage . . .	68	70	14	14	18	16
Hemel Hempstead . . .	72	68	14	16	14	16
Tring . . .	74	67	14	14	12	19
East Barnet . . .	50	65	45	15	5	20
Hitchin . . .	53	64	30	20	17	16
St. Albans . . .	56	62	29	22	15	16
Letchworth . . .	52-5	61	28	19	19-5	20
Bishop's Stortford . . .	73	60	17	27	10	13
Waltham Cross . . .	73	59	19	27	8	14
Barnet . . .	59	58	21	24	20	18
Average For all Centres . . .	66	66%	20	17%	14	17%



DEFECTS & AILMENTS (OTHER THAN THOSE DIRECTLY DUE TO WRONG FEEDING, BRONCHITIS,  
AND DIGESTIVE TROUBLES) OF CHILDREN WHO ATTENDED THE CENTRES IN 1925.

	NAME OF CENTRE.													Total.
	Barnet.	Berkhamstead.	Bishop's Stortford.	Waltham X.	East Barnet.	Hatfield.	Hertford.	Hemel Hempstead.	Hitchin.	Letchworth.	St. Albans.	Stevenage.	Tring.	
Alopecia .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Anæmia .. ..	2	..	5	4	3	3	4	5	3	6	10	1	..	46
Adenoids .. ..	1	4	..	2	..	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	13
Asthma .. ..	1	..	..	2	1	3	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	9
Abscess (glandular) ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	2	1	1	..	..	6
Blepharitis .. ..	1	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	2	..	..	1	8
Croup .. ..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Congenital Syphilis ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	2	..	..	4
Conjunctivitis .. ..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	5
Cyanosis .. ..	1	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	7
Cyst .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Chorea .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Dermatitis & Urticaria	3	1	3	3	1	..	6	7	4	1	11	3	1	44
Debility .. ..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3
Drop-wrist (t.b.) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Enuresis .. ..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3
Eczema and Impetigo ..	3	7	2	11	3	3	6	11	7	5	4	2	5	69
Epilepsy .. ..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Furuncles .. ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	3
Flat-foot .. ..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	4
Fits and Convulsions ..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	1	..	6
Glands (enlarged) ..	3	6	2	8	1	3	3	3	3	4	7	..	4	47
Hernia—umbilical ..	3	1	2	7	2	3	4	3	7	5	11	3	1	52
Hernia—inguinal ..	1	..	1	1	1	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	7
Hemiplegia—infantile ..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	5
Hæmatoma .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	1	4
Hæmophilia .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Hæmorrhoids .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Hydrocephalus .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Incontinence (nocturnal)	..	..	3	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	6
Infantile paralysis ..	1	..	..	2	..	2	1	..	..	..	1	1	1	9
In-toe .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	2	1	..	5
Injuries :—														
(1) Fracture .. ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
(2) Strained neck muscles ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
(3) Sprained ankle ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
(4) Displaced ankle ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
(5) Burn or scald ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	4
Jaundice .. ..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	4	..	1	..	7
Knock-knee .. ..	2	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	1	2	3	2	..	13
Malformations :—														
(1) Coxa vara .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
(2) Harelip and cleft palate ..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	4
(3) Stiff wrist .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
(4) Malposition of toe ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
(5) Malposition of lower limbs ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
(6) Imperforate anus ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Carried forward	24	21	19	57	18	27	33	37	40	39	60	19	19	412

	NAME OF CENTRE.													
	Barnet.	Berkhamstead.	Bishop's Stortford.	Waltham X	East Barnet.	Hatfield.	Hertford.	Hemel Hempstead.	Hitchin.	Letchworth.	St. Albans.	Stevenage.	Tring.	Total.
Brought forward	24	21	19	57	18	27	33	37	40	39	60	19	19	412
Mental deficiency ..	..	..	..	..	3	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Marbus Cordis ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	3
Mastoid abscess ..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Mastitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Marasmus ..	..	..	..	2	..	1	1	..	..	1	2	..	..	7
Nerves ..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	..	6
Nystagmus ..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Otorrhœa ..	2	1	1	4	1	2	4	3	3	2	2	..	5	30
Ophthalmia neonatorum	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	6
Pharyngitis ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2
Phimosis ..	5	1	5	6	1	4	4	3	3	3	8	3	1	47
Prolapsus ani ..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	3
Prolapsus vaginæ ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Rhinitis ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2
Rickets ..	6	3	5	7	5	7	5	1	5	6	12	7	3	72
Seborrhœa ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	..	..	4
Stomatitis ..	..	..	..	2	1	..	3	2	4	2	2	..	..	16
Spastic paraplegia ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Strabismus ..	..	..	..	2	..	1	2	..	..	1	..	..	1	7
Spinal Curvature ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2
Septic Sore ..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Tonsils (enlarged) ..	1	3	2	3	1	1	1	1	..	1	3	..	..	17
Tongue tie ..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3
Tinea tonsuraus..	..	1	..	1	1	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	6
Talipes ..	1	..	2	1	..	1	..	2	3	4	3	..	..	17
Tuberculosis ..	..	6	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	..	..	11
Torticollis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2
Tearduct blocked ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2
Undescended testicle ..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	4
Vaginitis..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Vermer ..	..	2	1	4	..	3	..	3	3	4	1	1	3	25
Sunstroke ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Mongol ..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	45	43	37	95	28	52	52	55	68	72	103	31	38	729

From these comparative tables it will be seen that for all the centres taken together the figures show an increase in almost every column.

On the whole it has been a bad year for the health of both mothers and children. There have been many epidemics and ailments, as well as many more cases of rickets, enlarged glands, anaemia, and skin troubles; and the effects of bad housing conditions and unemployment generally have been very noticeable, but there has been no increase in the mortality rate



for the centres. The health of the children who attended has been much improved by the treatment and teaching they received.

The *prescriptions* for cod-liver oil, malt, or iron, given either free or at half cost, are of the greatest value in combating the anaemia of expectant and nursing mothers, and in improving the general nutrition of the children. Owing to the prevailing shortage of money a large proportion of prescriptions were given free of cost.

*Milk grants.*—The requirement by the County Council of a medical certificate with every application for a grant of milk has much lessened the number of these. In many ineligible cases in which help was needed solely for pecuniary reasons, it has been found possible to obtain milk from voluntary sources at several of the centres. Where this has not been possible, the case has been referred to the guardians.

*Ante-natal clinics.*—The establishment of morning ante-natal clinics at certain centres has meant a very considerable increase in the work of the medical officer and the health visitors, but the clinics themselves are being appreciated by the expectant mothers, who have attended well since they have realized their existence. It is because this took a little time to do that the results are not obvious in the statistics given for 1925.

There has been no diminution in the number of applications for *maternity beds* in the Hertfordshire County Council homes or hospitals. Mothers very much appreciate these. The number of children who attended the *Orthopaedic clinics* in 1925 was much greater than in 1924. The conditions from which these children were suffering were as follows:—Infantile paralysis (leg), pes planus, hydrocephalus, knock-knee, valgus ankles, metatarsus varus, bowed tibiae, infantile hemiplegia, congenital deformity of toes, pathological dislocation of hip, fracture of elbow, hare-lip, coxa vara, talipes varus, torticollis, rickets, supernumerary digits of feet, congenital talipes equinovarus, talipes calcaneo-valgus. In most of these cases the children have very greatly improved under treatment.

*Dental clinics* are very much needed for the Hertford and Bishop's Stortford districts, as there is no such clinic within anything like a reasonable distance (from a mother's point of view) of these centres.

*Convalescent home.*—It is a matter of great regret that towards the end of 1925, this home was closed to nursing mothers with young infants. In past years a three-weeks stay there has had most



beneficial results on tired or ailing mothers. A home of this kind, to which weary or convalescing mothers can be sent for rest and adequate food, is a very great help in restoring them to health.

*Premises.*—There has been no alteration as regards the buildings in which the centres are held except for some structural changes at Hemel Hempstead. Shelters for perambulators are much needed at Hertford and Letchworth.

At all the centres much help is given in various ways by voluntary workers, and many thanks are due to these ladies for their regular and continued assistance.

On the whole the results of the work done at the centres during the year has been very satisfactory. That it is appreciated is shown by the continually increasing numbers of mothers and children who attend and the number that are now advised to come to the centres by the local practitioners.

---

#### *HEALTH VISITORS, NURSES, AND MIDWIVES.*

The work of the health visitors, nurses, and midwives in connexion with the public health of the County increases from year to year in volume and importance. At the present time there are four whole-time County Council nurses and one subsidized midwife, the services in the remaining districts being provided by nurses of the County Nursing Association. The character of the excellent work which is being carried out by the nurses in the County may be estimated from a survey of their duties which include: Midwifery service, which is practically complete for the County; health visiting, including the supervision of children up to five, attendance at maternity and child welfare and weighing centres, school nursing and attendance at school clinics, tuberculosis nursing and attendance at tuberculosis clinics, visiting and reporting on the homes of tuberculous patients, visiting and reporting on mental defectives in their homes, and certain duties in connexion with blind persons. In addition, the nurses do much valuable work in connexion with sick nursing.

The importance of maintaining and increasing the standard of the work of the midwives and health visitors in the County has been receiving special attention during the year. From time to time lectures are given to the midwives and health



visitors on up-to-date methods particularly in regard to antenatal treatment. Under the scheme of maternity and child welfare in the County special expenditure has been approved for this purpose, and a special course of lectures has been given to the midwives during the past six months.

In the following report Miss Harrington, the County Health Visitor, Inspector of Midwives, and County Superintendent of Nurses, gives full particulars of the work of the health visitors, nurses, and midwives during the year.

## *ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF MIDWIVES AND COUNTY HEALTH VISITOR FOR THE YEAR 1925.*

### NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT, 1907-15.

During the year 1925 the Health Visiting work has been carried out by 105 Health Visitors, including four whole-time County Council nurses and one subsidized midwife.

3,705 of the 4,649 babies born alive during 1924 (exclusive of Watford Urban District) have been visited by the Health Visitors, a percentage of 79·6 per cent.

Of the babies visited 66 died before reaching the age of one year, showing a mortality of 17·8 per 1,000; 377 babies left the County before completing their first year. In all cases when the address could be obtained, it was forwarded to the local Health Authority.

From the Health Visitors' returns it is shown that 2,523 or 68·0 per cent. of the infants were breast-fed, 826 or 22·2 per cent. were partly breast-fed, and 356 or 9·6 per cent. were bottle-fed, 935 or 25·2 per cent. used dummies, 1,343 or 36·2 per cent. were vaccinated, 2,833 or 76·4 per cent. were up to the average weight.

The work of the Health Visitors is shown in Table 15.

### PROVISIONS AND TRAINING OF MIDWIVES.

Ten Nurse-Midwives were trained at the Watford Training Home during 1925, and the County Council Grant, amounting to £500, has been given to the County Nursing Association.

## STATEMENT OF WORK AS INSPECTOR OF MIDWIVES AND COUNTY HEALTH VISITOR FOR THE YEAR 1925.

Inspection of Midwives . . . . .	684
Visits to Health Visitors, Nurses and Doctors . . . . .	604
Attendance at Committee Meetings . . . . .	89
Attendances at Infant Welfare Centres, County Council. . . . .	22
Attendance at Infant Welfare Centres, Voluntary . . . . .	28
Letters, Circulars, etc., under Midwifery Act and Notification of Births Act . . . . .	9,259

### STATISTICS OF MIDWIVES PRACTISING IN THE COUNTY.

There were 160 midwives practising in the County on 1st January, 1926, 159 trained and one untrained. In addition there were 32 temporary midwives and 30 who have left or retired, making a total of 202 practising in 1925.

Of those in practice on 1st January, 1926, 25 are in private practice and 111 work for Nursing Associations, six are employed by the County Council, and 18 in Institutions.

In 1925 the total number of cases was 5,481, excluding stillbirths. The midwives attended 4,073 cases. Of these 1,376 were with a doctor engaged, and included 63 of 4.5 per cent. stillbirths; 2,699 were attended by the midwives alone, and included 46, or 1.7 per cent. stillbirths.

The number of infants who died before the tenth day was 15 in midwives, cases born alive, being a mortality of 5.5 per 1,000. In addition to these cases the midwives attended 96 abortions with a doctor.

The number of ante-natal visits paid by the midwives was 12,343.

### MATERNAL MORTALITY.

In the 2,699 cases attended by the midwives, there were 5 maternal deaths, or 1.8 per 1,000.

### MEDICAL AID AND ANY OTHER NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED.

The number of medical aid notices was 534, or 19.7 per cent.

One baby died, no doctor having seen it.



TABLE 14.—MIDWIVES AND THEIR WORK FOR THE YEAR 1925.

DISTRICT	POPULATION.	TOTAL BIRTHS.		BIRTHS ATTENDED BY MIDWIVES.		INFANTS' DEATHS			NOTIFICATIONS.				MATERNAL DEATHS FOR WHOLE COUNTY. MIDWIFE.	NUMBER OF MIDWIVES.				
		Legitimate.	Illegitimate.	Midwife.	With Doctor.	Under one Year.	Rate per 1,000.	Midwives' cases under Ten Days.	Medical Aid.		Stillbirths.			Private.	Nursing Association.	County Council.	Institution.	Total.
									Mother.	Child.	With Doctor.	Midwife.						
Urban.																		
1. Baldock ... ..	2,718	46	1	33	11	1	21'2	...	7	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
2. Barnet ... ..	12,150	185	4	52	20	13	68'7	...	9	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	
3. Berkhamstead	7,460	101	5	74	15	7	66'0	2	12	4	...	1	...	...	3	...	4	
4. Bp. Stortford...	8,728	102	8	59	26	7	63'6	...	4	1	1	1	...	...	3	...	4	
5. Bushey ... ..	8,469	95	2	30	16	3	30'9	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	
6. Cheshunt ... ..	14,260	224	8	82	96	10	43'1	1	12	5	4	...	...	1	6	...	7	
7. Chorleywood...	2,483	25	1	5	10	1	38'4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	
8. E. Barnet Valley	14,290	207	10	72	19	9	41'4	...	13	2	2	2	...	1	3	...	4	
9. Harpenden ... ..	6,657	63	4	47	15	3	44'7	1	14	2	1	1	...	...	4	...	4	
10. H. Hempstead	14,090	233	7	125	106	6	25'0	...	11	4	9	...	2	2	3	...	7	
11. Hertford ... ..	10,990	164	9	81	40	11	63'5	2	26	3	2	...	...	...	4	...	4	
12. Hitchin ... ..	13,380	211	14	103	90	12	53'3	...	19	4	4	2	...	1	...	4	6	
13. Hoddesdon ... ..	5,549	82	8	47	15	3	33'3	...	17	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	3	
14. Letchworth ... ..	11,750	213	4	84	102	11	50'6	1	14	3	5	1	...	3	...	...	3	
15. Rickmansworth	8,512	139	3	58	49	5	35'2	...	5	...	2	3	...	...	2	...	2	
16. Royston ... ..	3,745	45	2	19	25	3	63'8	...	3	4	5	1	...	...	1	...	1	
17. St. Albans ... ..	25,980	379	17	180	75	23	58'0	1	33	8	2	7	1	2	4	...	7	
18. Sawbridgeworth	2,380	46	1	31	14	1	21'2	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	
19. Stevenage ... ..	5,100	88	2	40	24	5	55'5	1	5	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	
20. Tring ... ..	4,285	58	1	15	17	1	16'9	...	9	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	
21. Ware ... ..	6,034	99	8	81	22	6	56'0	1	16	3	1	2	...	...	3	...	4	
22. Watford ... ..	48,990	814	33	608	165	40	47'2	1	75	14	12	7	1	2	7	...	9	
Total for U.D. ...	238,000	3,619	152	1,926	972	181	47'9	11	314	62	51	28	4	15	52	6	7	80
Rural.																		
1. Ashwell ... ..	3,545	39	7	36	10	3	65'2	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	3
2. Barnet ... ..	4,780	85	4	17	21	3	33'7	...	3	1	...	...	...	1	2	...	3	
3. Berkhamstead	4,764	61	2	37	12	4	63'4	...	6	...	...	1	...	...	4	...	4	
4. Buntingford ...	4,934	73	3	41	9	2	26'3	...	14	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	2	
5. Hadham ... ..	5,352	80	3	57	23	5	60'2	1	6	1	...	...	...	1	3	...	4	
6. Hatfield ... ..	8,726	141	5	68	55	5	34'2	...	11	1	1	1	...	1	6	...	7	
7. H. Hempstead	7,341	126	4	45	51	6	46'1	1	10	2	2	1	...	...	6	...	6	
8. Hertford... ..	7,255	121	3	53	28	2	16'1	...	11	3	...	2	...	...	6	...	6	
9. Hitchin... ..	13,560	232	4	118	70	8	33'8	...	19	4	3	2	...	...	8	...	8	
10. St. Albans ... ..	15,830	221	14	138	32	11	46'8	1	17	6	...	6	...	1	5	...	6	
11. Ware ... ..	11,410	174	6	93	40	6	33'3	1	20	2	3	3	...	...	8	...	8	
12. Watford ... ..	16,500	174	4	45	45	11	61'7	...	9	...	1	...	1	1	6	...	7	
13. Welwyn ... ..	4,603	118	6	25	8	11	88'7	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	
Total for R.D. ...	108,600	1,645	65	773	404	77	45'0	4	138	20	12	18	1	5	60	...	65	
Total for U.D. ..	238,000	3,619	152	1,926	972	181	47'9	11	314	62	51	28	4	15	52	6	7	80
Total for County	346,600	5,264	217	2,699	1,376	258	47'0	15	452	82	63	46	5	20	112	6	7	145

TABLE 15.—TABLE OF HEALTH VISITORS' WORK,  
carried out under "The Notification of Births Act,  
1907-1915 "

District and Health Visitor.	Parishes in each District.	Popula- tion covered.	No. of new Homes visited.	No. of Babies under super- vision, Dec. 31, 1925.	Health visits to Mothers and Babies.	Health Visitors' Attend- ances at Mater- nity Centres.	No. of cases as Midwife and Maternity Nurse and Visits.	No. of 1-5 Children under super- vision, Dec. 31, 1925.	Visits to these.
No. 1. Miss Milner	Barnet, Arkeley, Tot- teridge, Elstree, Cuffley, Little Heath, and Nor- thaw	15,660	172	136	1,261	45	—	178	287
No. 2. Miss Shore	Tring Urban District	4,285	40	51	786	69	36 cases, 856 visits.	109	408
No. 3. Miss Wells	Letchworth and Willian	11,957	216	199	1,753	48	—	320	472
No. 4. Miss Sutton	Hitchin and Wals- worth	13,380	207	232	2,080	48	—	287	475
Midwife Nurse Jeffrey	Ditto	—	—	—	—	—	105 cases, 1,800 visits.	—	—
Subsidized Midwife Nurse Thomas	Baldock, Bygrave, Wallington, and Radwell	3,124	56	64	599	47	48 cases, 917 visits.	85	166
Nurses working under the County Nursing Association.		240,802	2,932	3,266	31,087	1,483		5,259	8,221
		289,208	3,623	3,948	37,566	1,740		6,238	10,029



TABLE 16.

BIRTHS NOTIFIED UNDER "THE NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT, 1907"

From 1st January to 31st December, 1924.

DISTRICT.	Births.		Cases attended.		Stillborn.		Premature.	Infants visited by Health Visitors.			Death-rate per 1,000 of infants under 1 year for the County excluding Watford.	No. of Health Visitors.
	Notified.	Returned by Registrar.	By Doctor.	By Midwife.	Doctors' Cases.	Midwives' Cases.		Visited.	Died under 1 year.	Death-rate per 1,000 visited.		
<b>Urban.</b>												
1. Baldock ... ..	45	—	20	25	4	—	3	40	1	25·0	47·6	1
2. Barnet ... ..	157	28	136	49	8	1	8	98	1	10·2	44·8	1
3. Berkhamstead ...	86	15	29	72	1	2	7	81	4	49·3	30·0	4
4. Bishop's Stortford ...	127	4	58	73	3	3	11	89	1	11·2	65·6	3
5. Bushey ... ..	102	14	78	38	2	2	3	86	4	46·5	90·0	1
6. Cheshunt ... ..	241	20	143	118	—	2	14	222	3	13·5	40·4	4
7. Chorleywood ... ..	26	9	33	2	2	—	1	23	1	43·4	25·0	1
8. E. Barnet Valley ...	171	38	131	78	2	—	7	146	2	13·6	48·4	2
9. Harpenden ... ..	85	5	49	41	1	—	2	68	2	29·4	28·1	3
10. Hemel Hempstead...	203	20	132	91	6	1	18	179	4	22·3	51·4	3
11. Hertford ... ..	169	11	72	108	4	3	8	153	2	13·0	33·7	4
12. Hitchin ... ..	211	—	102	109	6	4	13	166	5	30·1	46·5	1
13. Hoddesdon ... ..	91	8	30	69	1	2	9	83	2	24·0	40·4	2
14. Letchworth ... ..	231	4	140	95	2	2	9	191	1	5·2	47·8	1
15. Rickmansworth ...	125	18	80	63	3	—	7	123	2	16·2	71·8	2
16. Royston ... ..	49	1	24	26	—	2	6	42	1	24·2	127·6	1
17. St. Albans ... ..	308	64	193	179	5	2	20	283	5	17·6	83·5	2
18. Sawbridgeworth ...	39	1	17	23	—	1	3	35	1	28·5	76·9	2
19. Stevenage ... ..	69	9	41	37	2	—	2	57	2	35·9	25·0	2
20. Tring ... ..	83	1	62	22	3	—	6	77	1	12·9	51·9	1
21. Ware ... ..	125	9	49	85	3	1	6	107	1	9·3	17·2	3
Total for Urban Districts	2,743	279	1,619	1,403	58	28	163	2,349	46	19·5	52·5	44
<b>Rural.</b>												
1. Ashwell ... ..	49	1	15	35	—	—	4	50	2	40·0	36·3	3
2. Barnet ... ..	76	6	47	35	2	3	4	56	—	—	12·6	1
3. Berkhamstead ...	72	—	29	43	1	—	3	65	3	46·1	69·4	4
4. Buntingford ... ..	90	2	34	58	3	2	12	82	1	12·1	34·0	3
5. Hadham ... ..	77	2	43	36	2	1	6	60	1	16·6	81·0	4
6. Hatfield ... ..	171	36	170	37	4	—	18	167	2	11·9	48·6	6
7. Hemel Hempstead...	133	12	90	55	3	1	6	116	2	17·2	70·8	6
8. Hertford ... ..	94	7	58	43	2	1	4	82	—	—	68·6	6
9. Hitchin ... ..	233	4	135	102	9	4	16	209	2	95·6	60·1	8
10. St. Albans ... ..	197	12	78	131	5	3	19	181	1	5·5	54·4	5
11. Ware ... ..	158	14	49	123	—	3	3	144	5	34·7	31·2	8
12. Watford ... ..	131	28	118	41	3	1	1	110	—	—	19·7	6
13. Welwyn ... ..	36	—	9	27	—	—	1	34	1	29·4	22·4	1
Total for Rural Districts	1,517	124	875	766	34	19	97	1,356	20	14·7	46·5	61
Total for Urban Districts	2,743	279	1,619	1,403	58	28	163	2,349	46	19·5	52·5	44
Total for County ...	4,260	403	2,494	2,169	92	47	260	3,705	66	17·8	50·3	105

## WATER SUPPLY.

The general source of water supply in the various Districts of the County and the defects still complained of have been fully described in previous Reports. The Urban Districts are, as a whole, well supplied and the standard of purity is high, although in some districts the total hardness reaches a high figure. No serious shortage such as was experienced in the latter part of 1921 and early part of 1922 occurred, as the year was a wet one.

---

## RIVERS POLLUTION.

**River Lee.**—Hertfordshire representative on the Lee Conservancy Board: Capt. E. T. Morris.

The River Lee rises just north of Dunstable, in Bedfordshire, and flowing through Luton enters the County a mile north of Harpenden, cutting across eastwards north of Hatfield, through Hertford and Ware, to join the Stort Navigation close to Hoddesdon, where it turns south and forms the eastern border of Herts. It receives the Mimram, Beane, Rib, Ash, and Stort, and drains most of the northern third and eastern section of the County.

Pymmes Brook, in East Barnet Valley, on leaving the County, flows due eastward into the New River.

**River Thames. Thames Conservancy Board.**—Hertfordshire C C. Representative: Right Hon. Sir Frederick Halsey, Bart.

The new Board exercises authority over the River above Teddington, with its tributaries, including the River Colne. The Colne rises to the west of Hatfield, flows south-west by Colney Heath, London Colney, and across the Midland Railway and the Watling Street at Colney Street. Passing to the south of Rickmansworth between Watford and Bushey Stations, it receives certain streams, notably in Hertfordshire the Ver, the Chess and the Gade. The Chess, from Chesham, in Bucks, passed just east of Chorleywood and Rickmansworth, and joins the Colne near the North-Western railway station of Rickmansworth. The Gade, from Gaddesden and Hemel Hempstead, receives the Bulbourne, from Northchurch and Berkhamstead, below



Boxmoor, and flows along on the west side of the North-Western Railway by King's Langley through Cassiobury Park west of Watford, to join the Colne just east of Rickmansworth.

---

### *DISPOSAL OF HOUSE-REFUSE.*

**House-refuse.**—The question of the dumping of house-refuse in Hertfordshire by authorities outside the County last year came up for consideration by the County Council, and representation regarding the necessity of preventing or controlling the dumping of outside refuse in the County was made to the Ministry of Health. The Ministry of Health suggested certain precautions to be carried out with regard to refuse dumps. The following rules are to be complied with : (1) the deposit to be made in layers ; (2) no layer to exceed 6 feet in depth ; (3) each layer to be covered on all surfaces exposed to the air with at least 9 inches of earth or other suitable substance except a portion which may be allowed uncovered during the formation of the layer ; (4) no layer to be left uncovered for more than 72 hours from the time of deposit ; (5) sufficient screens or other suitable apparatus to be provided where necessary to prevent any paper or other debris from being blown by the wind away from the place of deposit. Since these precautions have been carried out the objectionable features of the refuse-dumps in Hertfordshire have been to a considerable extent mitigated.

A further improvement to be reported is that through the action of the Ministry of Health all railway wagons conveying refuse into the County are now covered, and this not only prevents the blowing about of dust and paper, but minimizes to a large extent the nuisance caused when such wagons are standing in a railway siding.

**The House-fly.**—In wet seasons the house-fly as a carrier of the germs of disease is a less serious menace than in hot, dry weather. In the home especially when overcrowding exists every effort should be made to keep the house-fly in check. Exposed food and uncleanness attract flies to the house, and attention should therefore be given to cleanliness and protection of food. Refuse should not be allowed to remain in the vicinity of the house except in proper receptacles, and as much of it as possible should be

burned. There are many points relating to public health in which the assistance of the householder is of the greatest possible value and the suppression of the house-fly is one.

**Sanitary Inspection.**—In rural districts frequent routine inspection of cottage property from the point of view of structural and sanitary conditions is necessary. House-refuse is liable to be carelessly dealt with in rural districts. Such refuse as cannot be immediately disposed of should be burned so as to prevent it remaining in heaps near the house and become an attraction for rats and flies.

The question of the disposal of house refuse in rural districts is one which calls for attention and action by local sanitary authorities.

**Covered Dust-carts.**—The removal of refuse should be carried out by means of covered dust-carts, so as to prevent the blowing about of dust and papers. There is much need for a better organized system of removing refuse in many districts. In many rural districts efforts to provide public scavenging should be made. By employing motor dust-carts, the difficulties of scavenging in many of the larger villages could be overcome. Refuse should not be allowed to collect in dumps, but should be destroyed in a destructor; several districts might unite for this purpose. The question of the removal and destruction of refuse has recently been under consideration by the various District Councils in the County.

---

## *HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING.*

In some districts progress in the provision of houses by local authorities continues to be made, while in others it is more or less at a standstill at present, although new schemes are under consideration. In the annual report for 1920 a summary of what had been accomplished with regard to new construction was given. In the following table particulars are given of the present position in the various districts of the County, with regard to Housing.



TABLE SHOWING PRESENT POSITION AS TO THE PROVISION OF NEW  
HOUSES IN THE VARIOUS DISTRICTS IN THE COUNTY.

Name of Corporation or District Council.	No. of houses erected under 1919 Act.	No. of houses erected or proposed to be erected under 1923 Act.	No. of houses erected or proposed to be erected under 1924 Act.	Total.	No. of applicants on waiting list.
<i>Urban District Councils.</i>					
Baldock . . . . .	196	Nil	Nil	196	37
Barnet . . . . .	93	230	Nil	323	over 250
Bishop's Stortford . . . . .	10	Nil	42	52	56
Bushey . . . . .	66	Nil	30	96	180
Cheshunt . . . . .	84	60	Nil	144	200
Chorleywood . . . . .	36	20	Nil	56	48
East Barnet Valley . . . . .	164	66	Nil	230	74
Great Berkhamstead . . . . .	50	14	Nil	64	116
Harpenden . . . . .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	75
Hemel Hempstead Corporation . . . . .	56	24	12	92	118
Hertford Corporation . . . . .	72	134	Nil	206	200
Hitchin . . . . .	78	Nil	200	278	248
Hoddesdon . . . . .	50	Nil	Nil	50	108
Letchworth . . . . .	707	87	194	988	(many uncertain) 166 and an average of 6 per week.
Rickmansworth . . . . .	110	120	Nil	230	210
Royston . . . . .	48	Nil	48	96	20
Sawbridgeworth . . . . .	16	Nil	Nil	16	6
St. Albans Corporation . . . . .	100	162	162	424	not stated
Stevenage . . . . .	58	Nil	82	140	94
Tring . . . . .	12	Nil	Nil	12	10
Ware . . . . .	48	17	17	82	49
Watford Corporation . . . . .	953	40	246	1,239	1,527
<i>Rural District Councils</i>					
Ashwell . . . . .	34	Nil	44	78	22
Barnet . . . . .	40	121	Nil	161	150
Berkhamstead . . . . .	36	19	Nil	55	very few
Buntingford . . . . .	120	4	Nil	124	40
Hadham . . . . .	38	Nil	Nil	38	4
Hatfield . . . . .	72	270	Nil	342	200
Hemel Hempstead . . . . .	87	164	Nil	251	200
Hertford . . . . .	80	Nil	32	112	—
Hitchin . . . . .	400	6	50	456	219
St. Albans . . . . .	72	Nil	88	160	200
Ware . . . . .	148	14	Nil	162	203
Watford . . . . .	20	192	76	288	76
Welwyn . . . . .	80	383	94	567	370
Totals . . . . .	4,234	2,157	1,417	7,808	5,476

## TRADE PREMISES UNDER SUPERVISION.

### Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.

**Milk Supply.**—The passing of the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, is a step forward towards securing a pure milk supply. In pursuance of this Act, the Minister of Health has made an Order, the Milk (Special Designation) Order, 1922, prescribing the conditions subject to which licences may be granted. The authorities responsible for the issuing of licences under the above Order are as follows:—(1) The Minister of Health, licences to producers of Certified and Grade A (tuberculin-tested) milk. Producers holding above licences from the Minister of Health will also be entitled to sell milk produced under such licence as Grade A milk without further licence from Local Authority; (2) County Councils and County Borough Councils, licences issued to producers of Grade A milk; (3) Sanitary Authorities, licences issued to distributors of Certified milk, Grade A milk, including Grade A tuberculin-tested and Grade A Pasteurized milk, and of "Pasteurized" milk. No licence from a Sanitary Authority is necessary in the case of a licensed producer who distributes milk directly to the consumers.

The Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, came into operation on the 1st September, 1925. Sections 3, 4, and 5 of the Act contain provisions for stopping the supply of milk which is likely to cause tuberculosis. The Tuberculosis Order, 1925, which came into force on the same date, provides for the slaughter of bovine animals affected with certain specified forms of tuberculosis and for the payment of compensation in respect of animals so slaughtered. The Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, also came into operation during the year. Under these regulations no person who is aware that he is suffering from tuberculosis of the respiratory tract, can enter upon any employment in connection with a dairy which would involve the milking of cows, the treatment of milk, or the handling of vessels used for milk.

**Slaughterhouses.**—The private slaughterhouses in use throughout Hertfordshire are still far from satisfactory, and there is need of erecting single central abattoirs, wherever possible, especially in view of the danger from tuberculous meat. Urban authorities may themselves provide slaughterhouses. In the larger urban districts inspection on the whole is systematic-



ally and efficiently carried out, but this cannot be said of some of the rural districts. The Rural District Councils (Slaughter-Houses) Order, 1924, confers on Rural District Councils the power to provide slaughter-houses and to make by-laws. By the new Order it will be required that every place used as a slaughter-house will have to be registered by the owner or occupier. In the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, are contained provisions for the regulation of slaughter-houses and slaughtering, and for the protection of meat against contamination by dirt, etc. Notice of the day and time of slaughtering has to be given to the Local Authority.

**Sale of Foods and Drugs Acts.**—The work under the Sale of Foods and Drugs Acts is carried out by the two Inspectors appointed for the purpose, working under the Chief Constable. Analyses of samples taken are made by the County Analyst, Dr. Bernard Dyer, of the Analytical Laboratory, 17 Great Tower Street, London, E.C., to whom I am indebted for the following report regarding the analytical work carried out during the year. The number of samples analysed was 439, which included the following : milk 263, butter 43, cream 31, apples 13, lard 11, sponge cakes 9, margarine 7, condensed milk 7, and pepper and self-raising flour 6. Of the total 439 samples, 28 were found to be unsatisfactory, namely two of apples, 11 of cream, 14 of milk, and 1 of sponge mixture.

Regarding the results of the analyses, Dr. Dyer reports as follows :—

It will be seen that the total samples amounted to 439, of which 28 were found to be unsatisfactory.

With regard to the apples, the following observations are contained in my recently rendered report for the past quarter :—

*Quotation from Report dated 15th January, 1925.*

“ The apples were sent in consequence of attention having been recently directed to the occurrence of traces of arsenic on imported apples that had been dressed with insecticidal spray during their growth. It appears that it is customary in some orchards to spray the trees with an arsenical wash early in the season in order to destroy the caterpillar of the pest known as the ‘ codlin moth ’ and it has been stated that during last season the unusual

circumstance of a second later attack of this moth led to a second spraying after the growth of the apples was advanced and it has been said that the lingering of the traces of wash which had been found on apples in consequence of the spraying is due to an unusual scarcity of rain in the subsequent part of the growing season. However this may be, investigation has shown that a good many apples have been thus contaminated, but also that in the great majority of cases the contamination has been negligible in quantity, even apart from the fact that it is confined to the surface of the apple, mainly on the withered calyx and in what is called the stalk-pit, and would only be swallowed by anybody consuming the whole of the peel including these usually rejected portions. I have not been able to find any sensible penetration of arsenic into the flesh of the apples. Of the 13 samples referred to in this report, four were free from arsenic, seven had on them traces which might be regarded as negligible, while two gave more substantial traces, amounting respectively to  $\frac{1}{50}$  of a grain and  $\frac{1}{60}$  of a grain per pound of apples. Having regard to the weight of each apple, however, the quantity did not in either of these cases exceed the  $\frac{1}{300}$  part of a grain per apple or one-fifth part of a minimum medicinal dose—even supposing the purchaser to have eaten the whole of the peel and other external portions of the apple. These two samples, however, have been classed as unsatisfactory.”

The 11 samples of cream referred to as unsatisfactory are so classed because they contained boric acid preservative in spite of their having been sold without any declaration that they consisted of preserved cream.

Of the 14 samples of milk condemned during the year, 9 showed evidence of added water in proportions varying from 4 to 19 per cent., while 5 were deficient in fat to an extent varying from 5 to 15 per cent. of the minimum quantity proper to genuine milk.

The sample of sponge cake contained 0.2 per cent. of boric acid preservative, due, no doubt, to the use of imported, preserved liquid egg, despite the understanding generally accepted in the bakery trade (in consequence of the action of the Ministry of Health) that such preserved egg should not be used in sponge cakes of the type commonly consumed by infants and invalids.



TABULATE STATEMENT OF RESULTS OF ANALYSIS OF SAMPLES.  
MILK AND CREAM NOT SOLD AS PRESERVED CREAM.

(a) Number of Samples examined for the presence of a preservative.	(b)  Number in which preservative was reported to be present, and Percentage of preservative found in each sample.
Milk 265 Cream 31	0 11

1 sample, No. 214, contained	% 0.40	Boric Acid (informal sample). Vendor fined £5 and costs £2 2s. (informal sample). Vendor fined £1 and costs £4 4s. Same { Vendor fined £5 and costs £2 2s. Vendor { Conviction, no penalty or costs: Conviction, no penalty or costs. (informal sample.) Vendor fined £2 2s. and costs £1 15s. Vendor fined £2 2s. and costs £1 15s. A further sample taken and found to be genuine.
1,, No. 226,,	0.35,,	
1,, No. 229,,	0.10,,	
1,, No. 394,,	0.40,,	
1,, No. 239,,	0.25,,	
1,, No. 240,,	0.25,,	
1,, No. 241,,	0.10,,	
1,, No. 440,,	0.10,,	
1,, No. 304,,	0.40,,	
1,, No. 309,,	0.30,,	
1,, No. 320,,	0.07,,	

*Cream sold as Preserved Cream.*

Correct statements made	4
Statements incorrect	0
	4

	<i>Percentage of Preservative found in each sample.</i>	<i>Percentage stated on statutory label.</i>
	% 0.20	% 0.40
1 sample contained	Boric Acid	
2 samples,,	0.25,,	0.40
1 sample,,	0.30,,	0.40

Determination of milk fat in cream sold as preserved Cream :—

(1) above 35 per cent.	4
(2) below 35 per cent.	0
Total	4

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS.

The health of the County during 1925 has on the whole been good, and the statistics generally are somewhat better than those for 1924.

There is a very slight fall in the birth-rate, which is 15.8 compared with 15.9 in 1924. The actual number of births was 5,481, compared with 5,496 in the previous year.

The population of the County was estimated at 346,600, an increase of 2,400, compared with 6,400 last year, the increase in the urban districts being estimated at 1,405, and in the rural districts 995.

There is a slight fall in the death-rate, which is 10·4 compared with 10·5 in 1924. There has also been a decrease in the number of deaths from influenza, bronchitis, pneumonia, cerebral haemorrhage, and a slight increase in the number of deaths from heart disease. The relationship between lengthened life and deaths from malignant disease and cardiac disease is referred to in the body of the report.

There is a distinct fall in the infant mortality, which is 47 compared with 51 last year.

The death-rate from cancer and other forms of malignant disease remains unchanged, namely 1·4. Of the total number of deaths from this cause the percentage over 65 years of age was 52·5 and that over 75 years was 23·7.

There is a slight increase in the death-rate from pulmonary tuberculosis namely 0·69 compared with 0·61. The death-rate from non-pulmonary tuberculosis has also slightly increased, the rate being 0·14 compared with 0·13 for 1924.

The number of patients from the County attending the Venereal Disease Clinics in London during the year is less, being 205 compared with 236 for 1924, 213 for 1923, 142 for 1922, 166 for 1921, 215 for 1920, 235 for 1919, and 113 for 1918.

There is no change in the death-rate from epidemic disease, which is 0·17. While there is an increase in the death-rate from scarlet fever, diphtheria, and whooping cough, there is a decrease in the death-rate from measles, enteric fever, and encephalitis lethargic. There was no death during the year from cerebro-spinal fever.

There were no deaths from smallpox during the year, but four cases of mild type were notified.

There were 8 deaths from puerperal fever, compared with 7 last year. The number of deaths from parturition or diseases of pregnancy was 10, compared with 11 last year.

There is a slight decrease in the number of deaths from pneumonia, 182 compared with 189 for 1924.

The changes which have taken place in the statistics for the County are well illustrated in the charts and tables in the body of the Report. Accompanying this report as an appendix are given particulars of the Health Services provided in the County.

In conclusion, I desire to express my thanks on behalf of the County Council to the ladies who act as voluntary workers at both the County Council and the Voluntary Maternity and Child Welfare Centres for the valuable assistance they give and to the time they devote to this most important work.



## SUMMARY.

**Particulars of Health Services provided by the  
County Council.****MEDICAL AND NURSING STAFF.**

*County Medical Officer of Health, County Tuberculosis Officer,  
and Chief School Medical Officer:*

H. HYSLOP THOMSON, M.D., D.P.H., County Medical Offices,  
Hertford. Telephone: Hertford 120.

A. P. FORD, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Deputy County  
Medical Officer of Health and Tuberculosis Officer, County  
Medical Offices, Hertford.

E. C. SPARROW, M.A., M.B., "Wayside", Watford. Telephone:  
Watford 583. Tuberculosis Officer.

*Medical Officer of Maternity and Child Welfare Centres:*

Dr. HELEN SWATMAN, M.B., "Goldthorne," Sollershott,  
Letchworth.

*County Health Visitor, County Inspector of Midwives, and  
Superintendent County Nursing Association:*

Miss E. HARRINGTON, County Medical Offices, Hertford.

*School Dentist:*

L. P. ALLEN, L.D.S., County Medical Offices, Hertford.

*Assistant School Medical Officers:*

The District Medical Officers of Health (except Dr. Gruggen)  
with in addition Dr. K. J. Aveling, 16 Chark Hill, Watford,  
Dr. J. Buchanan, 20 Station Road, Watford, Dr. R. Evans,  
New Road, Croxley Green, Dr. A. W. Ewing, The Moat,  
Puckeridge, Dr. E. W. Gilroy, Hempstead House, Hemel  
Hempstead, Dr. E. B. Reckitt, Little Hadham, Dr. L. P.  
Shadbolt, The Old Farm House, Bushey Grove, Watford, Dr.  
J. W. Turner, Sherwood House, Berkhamstead.

*Whole-time County Health Visitors:*

<i>District.</i>	<i>Name.</i>	<i>Address.</i>
Barnet	Miss L. MILNER	Council Offices, Barnet.
Hitchin	Miss G. B. TUTTON	66 Lancaster Road, Hitchin.
Letchworth	Miss L. WELLS	92 Rushby Mead, Letch- worth.
Tring	Miss A. SHORE	White House, Western Road, Tring.

In Watford there are two Health Visitors working under the  
Borough Council (see page 73).

In districts where there are no whole-time health visitors  
the district nurses act as health visitors.

## SCHOOL MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

The work of school medical inspection is carried out in the various districts by the Assistant School Medical Officers. The County Council has made arrangements for the treatment of the following defects in the children attending the Public Elementary Schools :—

**Operative Treatment of Tonsils and Adenoids.**—Referred by the Assistant School Medical Officers to the general hospitals in the County and the Prince of Wales Hospital, Tottenham. Treatment is provided free of cost to the patients. At Watford District Hospital, Monday is the regular day for school cases to be operated upon. Nurses arrange for the conveyance of children home from Hospital in an ambulance or car if possible.

**Defective Vision.**—Children with defective vision are referred by the Assistant School Medical Officers to medical practitioners in the County experienced in refraction work. In three districts, namely, Hitchin, Cheshunt, and Hatfield, such children are seen at the Clinics (The Maples, Hitchin, Greenfield House, Waltham Cross, and Northcote, Hatfield) and in the other districts at the surgeries of the medical practitioners.

When necessary a prescription is given for glasses, which are obtained at local opticians, half the cost being borne by the County Council and half by the parents. No charge is made to parents for the examination.

**Defective Teeth.**—Children with defective teeth are referred to the Dental Clinics by the Assistant School Medical Officers. There are seven Clinics provided by the County Council and three voluntary clinics, as under. A charge of 6*d.* per attendance is made. Dental treatment is also given at the clinics to expectant and nursing mothers, and children under five when such is urgently required.

### County Council Dental Clinics.

<i>District.</i>	<i>Address.</i>	<i>Day.</i>
Cheshunt .	Greenfield House .	2nd and 4th Tuesday.
Hatfield .	Northcote, Hatfield .	3rd Tuesdays.
Hitchin .	The Maples, Hitchin .	Alternate Thursdays.
Letchworth .		
St. Albans .	St. Peter's Institute, St. Albans.	Mondays.
Stevenage .	Maternity Centre, High St., Stevenage.	Alternate Thursdays.
Watford .	Little Nascot, Watford .	Wednesdays, Fridays (Messrs. Dennis & Fisk).



### Voluntary Dental Clinics.

<i>District.</i>	<i>Address.</i>	<i>Day.</i>
Welwyn .	Welfare Hut, Welwyn .	Usually 3 half-days per month.
Harpenden .	Memorial Institute, Harpenden . . .	1st Tuesday in month (5th when five).
Welwyn Garden City	Lawrence Hall, Welwyn Garden City	1st two Mondays in month.

Information regarding hours of attendance will be obtained from the School Nurse.

**Minor Ailments.**—There are two Minor Ailment Clinics, one at The Maples, Hitchin, open on alternate Fridays at 11 a.m., and the other at Northcote, Hatfield, open on second Thursdays at 2 o'clock. Free advice is given, but the cost of the necessary medicinal treatment is met by the parents. A fee is paid to the Local Nursing Association for each attendance of a District Nurse at the Clinics. The School Nurse at Hitchin has a daily clinic for nursing treatment.

**Ringworm.**—X-ray treatment of ringworm is provided at the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's Inn Road, London, N., Wednesdays and Saturdays, 9 a.m., free of cost. Parents are required however, to pay their children's travelling expenses.

*Note.*—Children attending Public Elementary Schools requiring treatment for any of the above defects must be referred for such treatment by the Assistant School Medical Officers. Any child suffering from a defect who is not included in the age groups for medical inspection should be submitted for examination by the teacher or school nurse as a special case.

**Mentally Defective Children.**—Children who are mentally defective and of school age are referred to and examined by the Assistant School Medical Officers, and by Dr. Boycott. If educable and otherwise suitable, they are sent to a special school. There are two special schools in the County—the residential special school at Kingsmead, Hertford, and the Beechen Grove Day School, Watford. Beechen Grove free; charges vary for Kingsmead; see also page 71.

**Epileptic and Physically Defective Children,** such as epileptic blind, deaf and dumb, or deformed children, are referred to and examined by the Assistant School Medical Officers and if found suitable are sent to special residential institutions. A weekly charge is made, which varies according to circumstances.

**Hospital Treatment.**—Children suffering from paralytic conditions and bone defects who require special treatment are sent to special hospitals for which a charge is made according to circumstances.

## THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

**Bacteriological Examinations.**—To assist in the diagnosis of tuberculosis the County Council has made arrangements for the free examination of sputum and discharges. The necessary outfit for collecting sputum and discharges can be obtained upon application to the County Medical Offices, Hertford, or from the Tuberculosis Officers at one of the Dispensaries, and at Watford from the District Medical Officer of Health.

**Dispensaries.**—Patients are examined with a view to diagnosis by the Tuberculosis Officers when they are sent by medical practitioners or Assistant School Medical Officers. Medical Practitioners in addition to notifying the District Medical Officer of Health of a case of tuberculosis should communicate with the Tuberculosis Officer. There are fourteen dispensaries in the County, as follows :—

<i>District.</i>	<i>Address.</i>	<i>Attendance of Tuberculosis Officer.</i>
Baldock . . .	Council Offices, Baldock	Second and fourth Tuesdays, 10 a.m.
Barnet: . . .	Council Offices, Wood Street, Barnet.	Wednesdays, 2.30 p.m.
Berkhampstead .	Council Offices, Berk- hampstead.	First and third Fridays, 11 a.m.
Bishop's Stortford	Court House, Bishop's Stortford.	First and third Mondays, 2.30 p.m.
Cheshunt . . .	Greenfield House, Waltham Cross.	Thursdays, 10.30 a.m.
Hatfield . . .	At Mrs. Cowles, Church St., Hatfield	Mondays (second and fourth), 11.30 a.m.
Hemel Hempstead	West Herts Hospital, Hemel Hempstead.	Wednesdays, 11 a.m.
Hertford . . .	County Medical Offices, Hertford.	Fridays, 10 a.m.
Hitchin . . .	North Herts and South Beds Hospital, Hitchin.	Tuesdays, 2 p.m.



<i>District.</i>	<i>Address.</i>	<i>Attendance of Tuberculosis Officer.</i>
Letchworth	. 123 Norton Way, Letchworth.	Tuesdays, 11 a.m.
Puckeridge	. Dr. Ewing's surgery, Puckeridge.	Second Friday, 2.30 p.m.
Royston	. Drs. Windsor's and Wightman's surgery, Royston.	First and third Fridays, 3 p.m.
St. Albans	. 79 Victoria Street, St. Albans.	Thursdays, 2.30 p.m.
Watford	. Council Offices, Wat- ford.	Mondays and alter- nate Tuesdays, 2.30 p.m.

**Institutional Treatment.**—This includes sanatorium treatment for children (Children's Sanatorium, Harpenden, and Church Army Sanatorium, Farnham), sanatorium treatment for adults (County Sanatorium, Ware Park), and hospital treatment for non-pulmonary cases in General Hospitals in the county, and Special Hospitals, such as R.S.B.H., Margate, R.N.O.H., London and Stanmore, and Lord Mayor Treloar's Home, Acton. Provision is now made in the County Sanatorium for four colony patients.

*Note.*—The form of treatment prescribed depends upon the recommendation of the Tuberculosis Officer.

**Home Treatment.**—Carried out by patients' own doctors, with whom patients may be seen in consultation with Tuberculosis Officer.

**Shelters** supplied by the County Council in connection with home treatment when recommended by Tuberculosis Officer. No charge is made.

**Health Visiting and Nursing.**—Certificates with requests for visiting or nursing are forwarded to the nurses from the County Medical Office. In these cases payments are made to the District Nursing Associations at the rate of 2s. 6d. per Home Conditions form duly completed and forwarded, and 1s. per other visits for health visiting or nursing purposes as requested. Payments are made half-yearly. In addition a fee of 5s. is paid for the attendance of one nurse at the Dispensary.

**Milk.**—The County Council supplies milk not exceeding one pint per day to patients suffering from certain forms of tuberculosis and under certain conditions. Each case is considered on its merits.

**Special Treatment.**—Arrangements are now made to continue treatment by artificial pneumo-thorax after leaving the Sanatorium.

### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The County Council has made the following arrangements under the above scheme for the care of mothers and children :

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.—There are thirteen County Council Centres and thirteen Voluntary Centres. The Centres are open one day a week and the doctor attends every second week. Below is given the address of each Centre and the day the doctor attends :—

#### County Council Centres.

<i>District.</i>	<i>Place.</i>	<i>Day Open.</i>
Barnet .	Church House, Barnet	Mondays, 2.15 p.m.
Berkhampstead .	Annandale House, Berkhampstead.	Fridays, 2 p.m.
Bishop's Stortford	Congregational Hall, Bishop's Stortford.	Thursdays, 2.30 p.m.
Cheshunt . .	Greenfield House, Waltham Cross	Fridays, 2.15 p.m.
East Barnet .	Church Room, East Barnet	Mondays, 2.30 p.m.
Hatfield . .	Northcote, Hatfield.	Fridays, 2.30 p.m.
Hemel Hempstead	Marlowes, Hemel Hempstead.	Tuesdays, 2.15 p.m.
Hertford . .	St. Nicholas Hall, Hertford.	Wednesdays, 2.30 p.m.
Hitchin . .	The Maples, Hitchin.	Mondays, 2 p.m.
Letchworth .	Howard Hall, Letchworth.	Thursdays, 2.15 p.m.
St. Albans . .	Wellington Court, St. Albans.	Wednesdays, 2.15 p.m.
Stevenage . .	High Street, Stevenage	Tuesdays, 2.30 p.m.
Tring . .	Akeman Street, Tring	Fridays, 2 p.m.

Ante-Natal clinics are held in the morning once a fortnight at Hitchin, Hertford, Letchworth and Waltham Cross.

Dr. Swatman attends all the County Council Centres with the exception of Berkhampstead and Tring, which are attended by Dr. Sparrow.



**Voluntary Centres.**—In the following districts voluntary maternity and child welfare centres have been established :—Aldbury, Apsley End, Baldock, Chorleywood, Harpenden, Hoddesdon, Kings Langley, Knebworth, Langleybury, Rickmansworth, Royston, Welwyn, and Welwyn Garden City.

**Weighing Centres.**—In the following districts weighing centres have been established :—Bushey, Croxley Green, High Cross, Kings Walden, North Mymms, Potters End, Redbourn, Ware, and Weston.

*Note* :—At all the maternity and child welfare centres a doctor attends at stated intervals ; no doctor attends the weighing centres.

The County Council pays a fee of 5s. to the District Nursing Associations for each attendance of a Nurse at one of the County Council centres.

**Maternity Homes.**—Accommodation for maternity cases is provided at the Maternity Home, Watford (12 beds), West Herts Hospital (5 beds), The Maples, Hitchin (4 beds), and the County Hospital, Hertford (4 beds). Under the County Council scheme patients are admitted to the Maternity Homes if they are complicated cases, or if the home conditions are such as likely to prove injurious to the mother. Application for admission should be made to the Medical Officer of the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres or to the Matrons of the Home. In cases admitted on account of unsuitable home conditions under the County Councils' scheme the form of application has to be signed by the District Medical Officer of Health. Forms of application for admission can be obtained from the County Medical Officer of Health. The fees vary according to circumstances. For information regarding fees apply to the matron.

**Puerperal Fever.**—The County Council has arranged to pay half the cost of the hospital treatment of notifiable cases of puerperal fever in approved institutions. Arrangements are also made for the home nursing of cases of puerperal fever.

**Convalescent Home, St. Leonard's-on-Sea.**—For mothers with their babies (up to 12 months) and for children under five years suffering from malnutrition or convalescent from some serious illness. Charges for maintenance :—

Mother with baby	. 10s. per week.
Children up to five	. 5s. per week.

Application for admission should be made to the Local Maternity and Child Welfare Centre or a form of application for admission

may be obtained from the County Medical Officer, Hertford, and should be returned to him after being filled in. Patients are required to pay their own travelling expenses. Arrangements are made by the County Council for the admission of ailing infants outside the Borough of Watford to the Infants' Home at Little Nascot.

**Hospital Treatment.**—The County Council has made arrangements for the hospital treatment of children suffering from certain diseases such as ophthalmia neonatorum and infantile diarrhœa and from deformities, subject to the approval of the case by the Hospital Authorities (in the County or in London). Application for admission to be made to the County Medical Officer, Hertford.

**Home Helps.**—The County Council has not adopted any scheme for the provision of Home Helps.

**Milk.**—Grants of milk are made to necessitous cases on a medical certificate. Cards on the feeding of infants can be obtained from the Centres or the County Medical Office or from the District Nurse Midwife.

**Orthopaedic and Massage Treatment.**—Children attending the Public Elementary Schools and children under five years of age attending the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres are referred by the Assistant School Medical Officers and the Medical Officer of the Centres to orthopaedic and massage clinics for advice and treatment, when such is considered necessary. The County Council pays to the Hertfordshire branch of the Red Cross Society 3s. 6d. for each inspection and 2s. for each subsequent attendance less the amount received from the patient, which averages about 3s. 6d. per month. The time at which the treatment is given is arranged between the parents and the masseuse at the Centre.

The Centres throughout the County provided by the Red Cross Society are :—

<i>Harpenden</i>	.	.	Harpenden Memorial Nursing Home.
<i>Hatfield</i>	.	.	Northcotts.
<i>Hitchin</i>	.	.	Old Free School, Tilehouse Street.
<i>Letchworth</i>	.	.	Broadway Church Hall.
<i>Royston</i>	.	.	Lady Dacre Rooms, Church Lane.
<i>St. Albans</i>	.	.	Bricket House.
<i>Watford</i>	.	.	30 Queen's Road.
<i>Welwyn</i>	.	.	Infant Welfare Hut.
<i>Welwyn Gaeden City</i>	.	.	Infant Welfare Centre, Lawrence Hall.



## AFTER-CARE CENTRES (held fortnightly).

*Hertford* . . . County Medical Office.

*Hoddesdon* . . . Infant Welfare Centre.

**THE TREATMENT OF MENTAL DEFECTIVES.**

Cases of Mental Deficiency above the age of 16, or ineducable children under that age, are in the first instance notified to the County Medical Officer at Hertford. Arrangements are then made for their examination, and when action is considered necessary the patient is sent to a certified institution or placed under guardianship. Within the County the County Council has provided for fifteen mentally defective females in the Union Infirmary, Watford, twenty mental defectives in the Bishop's Stortford Poor Law Institution, and for ten feeble-minded females in the Kingsmead School, Hertford. Outside the County defectives of both sexes are sent to various Certified Institutions. The provision of a County Institution for mental defectives is being proceeded with.

The sum of 2s. 6d. is paid for the first visit by the District Nurses to the home of a defective and the filling in of a home conditions report and 1s. for each subsequent visit as may be required ; see also page 65.

**BLIND PERSONS.**

In addition to the provision made by the Education Authority the County Council has made the following arrangements :—

*Children under School Age.*—Arrangements are made for such children to be boarded out or sent to a residential home.

*Home Workers and Home Teachers.*—These services are carried out by the London Society for Teaching the Blind. In addition two home teachers are employed by the Hertfordshire Society for the Blind, half of whose salaries are paid by the County Council.

*Homes and Hostels.*—Maintenance grants to blind persons are paid when necessary.

*Unemployable Blind.*—Aged, infirm, and unemployable blind persons are boarded out or received weekly or other payments when necessary. Destitute cases are dealt with by the Boards of Guardians.

## **VENEREAL DISEASES.**

Patients suffering from venereal diseases are referred for treatment to the Clinics connected with various hospitals in London. A list of these hospitals with the day and time of attendance has been forwarded to each medical practitioner in the County. Applications for further information should be made to the County Medical Office, Hertford.

The treatment is provided free of cost to the patient, but patients have to pay their own travelling expenses except in necessitous cases.

## **MEDICAL ASSISTANCE TO MIDWIVES.**

The County Council pays the fees of medical practitioners called in to assist midwives in complicated cases. The medical practitioners should send in their accounts to the County Medical Officer, Hertford, and on the accounts should be stated the nature of the services rendered, the number of visits, whether the visits were day or night visits, and the reason for attendance after the tenth day if any. The medical aid notice sent by the midwife should be attached to the account.

## **COUNTY NURSING ASSOCIATION.**

The nurses of the District Nursing Association affiliated to the County Nursing Association carry out various duties in connection with health visiting, school nurses, tuberculosis nursing, etc., for the County Council.

**Infant Health Visiting.**—In those districts where there are no whole-time health visitors, the work of infant health visiting is carried out by the District Nursing Associations, for which an annual grant is paid by the County Council on a basis of £4 per thousand of population. The grant is paid half-yearly in March and September. Health visiting forms for all infants born in the County are sent from the County Medical Office to the nurses. Nurses visit the infants in their homes once a month for twelve months; delicate babies are visited more frequently. Visits by the nurses to children up to the age of five are now made.

**School Nursing.**—The work of the school nurses includes helping the Assistant School Medical Officer during the medical inspection of school children, following up these children with defects to see that they are receiving treatment, and visiting the



schools once a month for cleanliness. In those districts where there are no whole-time health visitors, the school nursing is undertaken by the District Nurses, for which the District Nursing Association receive an annual grant payable half-yearly in March and September, at the rate of 5*d.* per school child in the Urban Districts and 6*d.* per school child in the Rural Districts.

**Service of Midwives.**—This, with the exception of one or two districts, is provided by the Local Nursing Associations. Temporary financial assistance is sometimes given through or by the County Nursing Association to certain Nursing Associations which have experienced difficulty in providing the necessary service.

**Sick Nursing.**—The actual nursing of sick persons in their homes is carried out exclusively by the County Nursing Association and the District Nursing Associations, no grants being available for this purpose from the County Council.

**Other Services.**—In addition to the above the nurses of the District Nursing Associations carry out certain duties for the County Council in connection with tuberculosis, attendance at clinics and centres, and the home visiting of mental defectives and the blind, for which grants are paid to the District Nursing Associations.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE IN WATFORD.

*Medical Officer of Health :* Dr. W. J. Cox, Council Offices, Watford.

The Watford Borough Council is a separate authority under the Notification of Births Acts and the Maternity and Child Welfare Act. The separate services provided by the District Council under the above Acts include the following :—

**Health Visiting** carried out by two whole-time Health Visitors appointed by the Borough Council.

**Residential Infants' Home** at Little Nascot. Only ailing babies are admitted upon payment for as long as is necessary. Dr. W. J. Cox is Medical Officer to the Home. Application for admission should be made to him at the Council Offices, Watford. The home is open to children up to the age of five years, and is also available for cases outside the Borough under certain conditions.

**Maternity and Child Welfare Centre** at Little Nascot. The centre is open daily (except Saturdays) from 2 to 5 p.m. The work at the Centre includes ante-natal consultations, infant consultations, and school for mothers. Dr. W. J. Cox is the Medical Officer for the Centre for consultations. Arrangements are made between the County Council and the Borough Council for mothers and infants who reside outside the Watford area to attend the centre.

**Milk.**—The District Council supplies milk to expectant and nursing mothers and young children when after careful investigation it is found that they are unable to purchase the amount they require.

**Dental Treatment** is also provided (see page 64), Dr. S. Fisk being the Dental Officer, and one or two sessions per month are held as required. In necessitous cases the Council contribute towards the cost of dentures. Cases outside the Borough area also receive dental treatment.

---

### **Information as to Health Services not provided by the County Council.**

#### **NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH AND INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.**

<i>District.</i>	<i>Medical Officer of Health.</i>	<i>Inspector of Nuisances.</i>
<b>Urban.</b>		
Baldock . . .	Dr. B. Suggit, Baldock.	P. Kent, Baldock.
Barnet . . .	Dr. C. F. Hardie, Council Offices, Barnet.	C. W. Hill, Council Offices, Barnet.
Berkhampstead . . .	Dr. W. Gruggen, Durban Road, Watford.	J. R. Hatfield, Berkhamstead.
Bishop's Stortford . . .	Dr. R. A. Dunn, The Cedars, Hertford.	J. Lord, Bishop's Stortford.
Bushey . . .	Dr. W. Gruggen, Durban Road, Watford.	E. E. Ryder, Bushey.
Cheshunt . . .	Dr. McClymont, Gough Park Cottage, Clay Hill, Enfield, Mx.	F. Sykes, Cheshunt.
Chorleywood . . .	Dr. W. Gruggen, Durban Road, Watford.	E. Scott, Chorleywood.
East Barnet Valley . . .	Dr. A. Rose, New Barnet.	J. Lewis, E. Barnet Valley U.D.C. Offices, East Barnet.
Harpenden . . .	Dr. H. Fraser, Westlands, Harpenden.	G. Phillips, Harpenden.



<i>District.</i>	<i>Medical Officer of Health.</i>	<i>Inspector of Nuisances.</i>
<b>Urban.</b>		
Hemel Hempstead	Dr. W. Gruggen, Durban Road, Watford.	S. S. Rawson, Hemel Hempstead.
Hertford	Dr. R. A. Dunn, The Cedars, Hertford.	J. Barnish, The Castle, Hertford.
Hitchin	Dr. N. Macfadyen, Norton Way, Letchworth.	T. L. Kemp, Hitchin.
Hoddesdon	Dr. R. A. Dunn, The Cedars, Hertford.	T. V. Oliver, Hoddesdon.
Letchworth	Dr. B. Suggit, Baldock.	G. T. Hill, Letchworth.
Rickmansworth	Dr. A. E. Clark, Rickmansworth.	A. Freeman, Rickmansworth.
Royston	Dr. N. Macfadyen, Norton Way, Letchworth.	T. W. Witts, Royston.
St. Albans	Dr. R. Paton, The Gables, New House Park Gardens, St. Albans.	A. S. Macara, St. Albans
Sawbridgeworth	Dr. E. Collins, The Elms, Sawbridgeworth.	A. T. Watts, Sawbridgeworth.
Stevenage	Dr. A. Grosvenor, Stevenage.	J. Gillispie, Stevenage.
Tring	Dr. W. Gruggen, Durban Road, Watford.	H. M. Hedges, Tring.
Ware	Dr. R. A. Dunn, The Cedars, Hertford.	A. Dickinson, Ware.
Watford	Dr. W. J. Cox, Council Offices, Watford.	S. Jump, Council Offices, Watford.
<b>Rural.</b>		
Ashwell	Dr. N. Macfadyen, Norton Way, Letchworth.	A. C. Dyson, c/o Mr. Sharpe, Royston.
Barnet	Dr. W. Gruggen, Durban Road, Watford.	A. J. Wiltshire, Barnet.
Berkhampstead	Dr. W. Gruggen, Durban Road, Watford.	J. Oakes, Northchurch.
Buntingford	Dr. R. A. Dunn, The Cedars, Hertford.	E. G. Thody, Buntingford.
Hadham	„ „	W. N. Jarvis, Warwick Rd., Bishop's Stortford
Hatfield	Dr. A. Ballance, North Place, Hatfield.	H. T. Sidwell, Hatfield.
Hemel Hempstead	Dr. W. Gruggen, Durban Road, Watford.	T. H. Lighbody, Hemel Hempstead.
Hertford	Dr. R. A. Dunn, The Cedars, Hertford.	J. W. Riggs, Trinity Grove, Hertford.
Hitchin	Dr. N. Macfadyen, Norton Way, Letchworth.	J. C. Hooper, Hitchin.
St. Albans	Dr. R. Paton, The Gables, New House Park Gardens, St. Albans.	R. Davey, St. Albans.
Ware	Dr. R. A. Dunn, The Cedars, Hertford.	H. J. Jackson, Rye Road, Hoddesdon.

<i>District.</i> <b>Rural.</b>	<i>Medical Officer of Health.</i>	<i>Inspector of Nuisances.</i>
Watford . .	Dr. W. Gruggen, Durban Road, Watford.	J. Robinson, Watford.
Welwyn . .	„ „	T. E. Moore, Welwyn.

### Red Cross Ambulances.

<i>District.</i>	<i>Stationed at</i>	<i>Officer in Charge.</i>
Albury (near Tring)	Infectious Diseases Hospital (Tele. : Tring 2.)	A. Vaisey, Esq., Albury Hospital, Tring (Tele. : Tring 2.).
Barnet . .	The Fire Station, Barnet. (Tele. : Barnet 60.)	Mr. W. Plumptre, Council Offices, Barnet. (Tele. : Barnet 267.)
Hemel Hempstead	13 Marlowes, Hemel Hempstead. (Tele. : Boxmoor 102.)	Mr. R. Butterfield, West Herts Hospital, Hemel Hempstead. (Tele. : Boxmoor 39.)
Letchworth . .	The Fire Station, Eastcheap, Letchworth. (Tele. : Letchworth 110.)	Mr. G. Brown, Urban District Council Offices, Letchworth. (Tele. : Letchworth 82.)
Cheshunt . .	Manor House, Cheshunt. (Tele. : Waltham Cross 64.)	G. Williamson, Esq., U.D.C. Offices, Manor House, Cheshunt.
<i>District.</i> St. Albans . .	<i>Stationed at</i> City Police Office, Victoria Street, St. Albans. (Tele. : St. Albans 18.)	<i>Officer in Charge.</i> W. G. Marshall, Town Clerk's Office, St. Albans. (Tele. : St. Albans 71.)
Watford . .	The Fire Station, High Street, Watford. (Tele. : Watford 114.)	The Superintendent, Fire Station, High Street, Watford. (Tele. : Watford 114.)
Hitchin . .	Isolation Hospital. (Tele. : Letchworth 13.)	A. E. Passingham, 5 Bancroft, Hitchin. (Tele. : 22.)
Hertford and Ware	Gallows Hill, Hertford. (Tele. : 28.)	The Clerk, H. & W. Jt. Hospital Board. (Tele. : 28.)

### Other Ambulances.

Berkhampstead .	Council Offices, High St., Berkhamstead.	Caretaker, Council Offices, High Street, Berkhamstead.
Bishop's Stortford.	Haymeads Lane, Bishop's Stortford.	<i>Motor Ambulance :</i> Matron, Isolation Hospital. <i>Hand Ambulance :</i> Officer Groves, 48 Grange Rd., Bishop's Stortford.
Hertford . .	Isolation Hospital.	Matron of Hospital.
Baldock . .	See Letchworth Red Cross Ambulance.	



**General Hospitals.**

		<i>Beds.</i>
Barnet (Victoria) Cottage .	Barnet . . . . .	33
Bishop's Stortford . .	Bishop's Stortford . . . . .	26
Bushey Heath Cottage .	Bushey Heath . . . . .	
Cheshunt Cottage . .	Church Lane, Cheshunt. . . . .	15
Hertford County . .	North Road, Hertford . . . . .	106
Letchworth . . . .	Pixmore Avenue, Letchworth . . . . .	28
North Herts and South Beds	Bedford Road, Hitchin . . . . .	40
Royston Cottage . .	Royston . . . . .	19
St. Albans and Mid Herts .	Verulam Road, St. Albans . . . . .	62
Watford District . .	Vicarage Road, Watford . . . . .	108
Welwyn Cottage . .	Welwyn . . . . .	11
West Herts . . . .	Hemel Hempstead . . . . .	108

**Infectious Diseases Hospitals.**

Albury Joint Hospital .	Berkhampstead.
Barnet Joint Hospital .	May's Lane, Barnet.
Hertford and Ware Joint Hospital	Hertford.
Infectious Diseases Hospital	Bishop's Stortford.
" "	Buntingford.
" "	Dig Dag Hill, Cheshunt.
" "	Garden Walk, Royston.
" "	Tring.
" "	Welwyn.
Isolation Hospital . .	Hitchin Road, Letchworth.
Joint Isolation Hospital .	Bennett's End, Hemel Hempstead.
" "	Watford.
The Sisters Hospital . .	St. Albans.
Smallpox Hospital . .	Andrew's Lane, Cheshunt.

**Smallpox Hospitals.**

Cheshunt Hospital . .	Ten beds, serves Cheshunt, Barnet Urban, East Barnet Valley, and Barnet Rural districts.
Bishop's Stortford Hospital	Twelve beds, serves Bishop's Stortford, Hadham Rural, and Sawbridgeworth districts.
Hitchin Hospital . .	In Langley Parish, serves Hitchin Urban and Rural, Hatfield Rural, Letchworth, Baldock, and Stevenage districts.
St. Albans Hospital .	Near Redbourn, twelve beds, serves St. Albans City, St. Albans Rural District, and Harpenden.

Watford Hospital . . .	At Holywell, ten beds, serves Watford Borough, Watford Rural, Rickmansworth, Bushey, and Chorleywood districts.
Hertford . . . . .	At Stapleford, six beds, serves Hertford Borough, Ware and Hoddesdon Urban, Ware and Hertford Rural.

### **National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.**

*Inspectors*—East Herts : E. Cullen, 68 Hertingfordbury Road, Hertford.  
West Herts : G. C. Westcott, 15 Cassio Road, Watford.

### **Convalescent Home.**

Herts Convalescent Home, St. Leonards-on-Sea, Secretary, C. Lawrence, Queen's Road, Hertford.



TABLE 17.—CHIEF STATISTICS OF URBAN AND RURAL DISTRICTS, 1925.

*As compared with those for 1924 and with the averages for ten years 1901-1910 and 1911-1920.*

DISTRICTS.	POPULATION.				Acreage (land and inland water), 1911.	Number of Rooms occupied, 1921.	Rooms per Person, 1921.	BIRTH RATE.*				CRUDE DEATH RATE.*				INFANT MORTALITY.				DIARRHŒA MORTALITY. §		DEATH RATE FROM PHTHISIS.*				DEATH RATE FROM CANCER.*				DISTRICT.
	By estimate, 1925.	By Census, 1921.	By Census, 1911.	By Census, 1901.				1925.	1924.	10 years. †	10 years. †	1925.	1924.	10 years. †	10 years. †	1925.	1924.	10 years. †	10 years. †	1925.	1924.	1925.	1924.	10 years. †	10 years. †	1925.	1924.	10 years. †	10 years. †	
<b>Urban. SUMMARY</b>	238,000	228,546	194,242	155,150	64,462	275,492	1'26	15'8	16'0	18'0	23'6	10'5	10'5	11'6	11'8	48	33	67	90	4'7	3'4	'6	'6	'8	'8	1'5	1'4	1'2	'9	Urban.
1 Baldoek ...	2,718	2,475	2,094	2,057	362	3,146	1'31	17'2	15'5	19'9	24'0	11'0	15'5	14'8	15'5	21	48	85	110	...	...	1'1	1'4	'9	'0	2'2	1'4	1'2	1'2	1
2 Barnet ...	12,150	11,740	10,440	8,359	3,114	13,946	1'27	15'5	12'9	16'5	23'3	13'3	9'9	11'1	11'0	69	45	67	100	...	...	'9	'4	'5	'8	1'8	1'9	1'4	'7	2
3 Berkhamstead ...	7,460	7,250	7,302	6,371	1,208	9,576	1'40	14'2	13'4	16'0	16'5	13'2	9'6	12'6	10'1	66	30	62	93	28'0	10'0	1'0	1'2	'6	'7	2'5	'6	1'1	'5	3
4 Bishop's Stortford	8,728	8,840	8,721	7,316	3,371	10,528	1'35	12'6	15'6	16'8	21'6	12'8	12'7	12'7	12'6	64	66	76	91	...	...	'5	'9	'6	'8	1'8	2'5	1'3	1'1	4
5 Bushey ...	8,469	8,020	6,978	4,564	3,081	9,577	1'36	11'4	13'3	15'3	19'3	8'0	10'2	9'6	9'7	31	90	59	80	...	...	'5	'9	'6	'5	'5	2'0	1'1	'9	5
6 Cheshunt ...	14,260	13,640	12,954	12,292	8,479	15,077	1'12	16'2	19'0	20'8	26'6	8'9	9'5	11'6	11'6	43	40	71	91	12'9	...	'8	'3	'8	'6	1'1	1'4	1'0	'8	6
7 Chorleywood ...	2,483	2,331	...	...	1,989	3,440	1'47	10'4	16'2	...	...	10'4	11'7	...	...	38	25	...	...	...	...	'8	'8	...	...	1'2	1'2	...	...	7
8 East Barnet Valley	14,290	13,490	13,381	10,094	2,644	17,390	1'32	15'1	16'0	16'8	22'3	8'8	10'0	9'8	10'2	41	48	48	85	23'0	...	'8	'5	'6	'6	1'0	1'5	1'1	'7	8
9 Harpenden ...	6,657	6,670	6,172	4,725	1,633	8,846	1'43	10'0	10'6	14'6	19'1	10'2	10'5	10'2	10'1	45	28	51	81	...	...	'7	'9	'6	'7	1'8	1'8	1'3	'8	9
10 Hemel Hempstead	14,090	13,920	12,888	11,264	7,184	16,158	1'24	17'0	15'1	20'3	24'5	8'8	9'9	12'9	13'2	25	51	60	90	4'1	4'6	'2	'3	1'0	1'0	1'1	1'3	1'1	1'0	10
11 Hertford ...	10,990	10,750	10,383	9,322	1,501	12,212	1'24	15'7	16'3	19'1	22'9	12'8	10'5	13'8	14'1	63	34	78	104	5'7	...	'7	'5	'9	'9	1'7	1'7	1'7	1'2	11
12 Hitchin ...	13,380	13,352	11,905	10,072	3,675	16,664	1'29	16'8	16'0	19'7	23'4	10'4	11'0	13'2	13'1	53	47	67	102	8'8	...	'6	'4	'7	'7	1'4	1'4	1'3	'8	12
13 Hoddesdon ...	5,549	5,400	5,196	4,711	1,576	6,716	1'27	16'2	18'0	18'3	23'5	11'3	12'9	13'1	12'1	33	40	70	97	11'1	...	'3	'7	1'0	'9	1'9	1'8	1'6	1'0	13
14 Letchworth ...	11,750	10,210	...	...	3,652	11,433	1'15	18'4	19'9	...	...	8'6	8'2	...	...	51	48	...	...	4'6	13'0	'6	'6	...	...	1'1	'8	...	...	14
15 Rickmansworth ...	8,512	7,520	6,288	5,627	2,790	9,058	1'24	16'6	18'6	18'4	26'7	13'3	11'2	10'0	11'4	35	72	65	88	...	6'5	'7	'4	'7	'9	'8	'5	'9	'6	15
16 Royston ...	3,745	3,780	3,985	3,517	1,003	5,008	1'42	12'5	12'4	15'6	21'1	16'2	13'2	13'0	12'2	64	128	74	76	...	...	'8	'2	1'0	'8	4'0	1'8	1'4	1'5	16
17 St. Albans ...	25,980	25,620	18,133	16,019	2,703	32,008	1'29	15'2	13'3	17'6	21'2	12'0	11'4	11'6	11'8	58	84	65	78	...	2'8	'7	'7	'7	'9	2'0	1'6	1'2	1'1	17
18 Sawbridgeworth ...	2,380	2,285	2,304	2,085	2,678	2,953	1'30	19'7	16'6	17'0	24'1	10'5	10'2	13'5	12'2	21	77	76	91	...	28'2	...	...	'6	'8	1'2	...	'7	1'4	18
19 Stevenage ...	5,100	5,023	4,856	3,957	4,545	6,486	1'31	17'6	15'7	19'1	26'3	10'7	11'3	11'6	12'1	55	25	63	77	...	12'5	'5	'1	'6	'8	1'1	1'7	1'1	1'2	19
20 Tring ...	4,285	4,278	4,481	4,349	4,407	5,784	1'36	13'7	18'0	18'9	21'0	9'8	12'6	13'2	13'1	17	52	54	85	...	...	'2	'4	'7	'5	'9	1'4	1'4	1'1	20
21 Ware ...	6,034	5,950	5,842	5,573	629	6,550	1'14	17'7	19'2	19'6	28'0	10'6	10'2	13'3	14'4	56	17	69	107	...	8'6	'4	'4	'7	1'1	1'1	1'6	1'1	'9	21
22 Watford ...	48,990	46,002	40,939	29,430	2,238	52,936	1'18	17'2	17'4	18'0	26'2	9'8	9'8	10'7	10'1	47	55	73	88	3'5	3'5	1'0	'6	'9	'8	1'4	1'2	1'0	'7	22
<b>Rural. SUMMARY</b>	108,600	103,674	117,042	103,273	340,061	123,112	1'30	15'7	15'7	18'2	22'6	10'1	10'5	11'6	12'0	45	47	58	83	2'3	3'5	'5	'5	'7	'7	1'4	1'4	1'2	'9	Rural.
1 Ashwell ...	3,545	3,600	3,948	3,953	22,049	4,962	1'38	12'9	15'2	16'4	20'0	15'7	10'8	14'1	14'4	65	36	61	82	...	...	'8	'6	1'0	'7	3'1	2'4	1'9	1'3	1
2 Barnet ...	4,780	4,500	4,969	4,154	9,216	5,320	1'24	10'2	16'5	19'3	25'5	9'8	8'4	9'6	10'6	34	13	51	82	...	...	'4	'2	'5	1'0	1'0	1'0	'8	1'1	2
3 Berkhamstead ...	4,764	4,692	4,707	4,708	18,383	5,903	1'26	13'4	15'1	17'2	25'0	10'9	10'3	13'1	15'4	63	69	69	101	...	...	'4	'6	'5	'9	1'8	1'4	1'3	1'1	3
4 Buntingford ...	4,934	4,890	5,019	5,020	28,470	6,503	1'35	15'4	17'5	18'8	22'1	12'3	12'8	13'4	14'5	26	34	44	81	...	...	'6	'5	'6	'9	1'4	2'2	1'4	1'2	4
5 Hadham ...	5,352	5,480	5,795	5,209	25,468	7,256	1'36	15'5	13'6	17'3	21'2	13'1	13'2	13'5	13'6	60	81	53	73	...	...	'3	'3	'6	'7	2'2	2'3	1'4	1'1	5
6 Hatfield ...	8,726	8,850	8,592	7,551	23,486	11,143	1'29	16'7	16'7	19'1	24'0	10'5	11'0	11'9	11'4	34	49	54	87	6'8	6'9	'6	'5	'8	1'0	1'8	2'2	1'1	1'0	6
7 Hemel Hempstead	7,341	6,840	6,565	6,012	19,994	8,807	1'31	17'7	17'5	18'9	21'0	10'7	12'6	12'7	12'4	46	71	54	95	...	7'8	'6	'5	'7	'9	1'7	1'1	1'2	1'0	7
8 Hertford ...	7,255	7,138	7,659	7,580	33,468	9,499	1'35	17'0	14'1	18'8	22'0	12'6	12'0	12'0	12'6	16	69	81	71	...	...	'5	'5	'5	'9	1'5	1'8	1'2	1'2	8
9 Hitchin ...	13,560	12,978	18,666	12,828	55,174	16,462	1'29	17'4	15'9	20'4	22'0	9'8	13'8	10'9	10'7	34	60	58	80	4'2	9'2	'6	'7	'7	'6	1'3	1'3	1'1	1'0	9
10 St. Albans ...	15,830	14,580	19,463	12,264	37,066	13,666	1'20	14'8	16'6	20'4	28'5	7'8	9'3	12'0	12'2	47	54	62	91	4'2	3'8	'1	'7	'7	'9	1'2	1'2	1'0	1'0	10
11 Ware ...	11,410	11,260	11,464	10,891	33,953	13,579	1'32	15'7	16'8	17'1	21'2	10'5	11'4	12'2	11'5	33	31	57	70	...	...	'9	'7	'7	'9	'9	1'6	1'3	1'0	11
12 Watford ...	16,500	16,158	17,776	14,315	26,854	16,626	1'36	10'7	12'3	14'4	19'3	7'2	6'5	10'3	9'8	62	20	59	80	...	...	'5	'4	'8	'6	1'0	'6	1'0	1'0	12
13 Welwyn ...	4,603	2,708	2,419	2,234	6,480	3,386	1'31	26'9	21'2	17'0	25'4	11'5	7'8	10'2	13'3	89	22	37	97	8'0	11'2	'6	'5	'4	'9	1'7	...	1'1	1'0	13
<b>COUNTY SUMMARY</b>	346,600	332,220	311,284	258,423	404,523	398,604	1'27	15'8	15'9	18'1	22'9	10'4	10'5	11'6	11'7	47	51	64	88	5'8	3'4	'6	'6	'7	'8	1'4	1'4	1'2	1'0	County

\* Per 1,000 of population.

† 1901-1910.

‡ 1911-1920.

|| Per 1,000 births.

§ Of children under two years of age per 1,000 births.







